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FOREWORD

Evidence remains the foundation of effective health policy and planning. The 2025 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (RDHS), the seventh in this series, provides valuable insights as Rwanda advances Vision 2050 and the Second National Strategy for Transformation (NST2).

Over the past three decades, Rwanda has achieved remarkable health gains, including reductions in maternal mortality from 1,071 to 149 per 100,000 live births and under-five mortality from 196 to 36 per 1,000 live births, alongside near-universal health insurance coverage. The 2025 survey, covering over 14,000 households nationwide, confirms continued progress, with skilled birth attendance at 98%, infant mortality at 27 per 1,000 live births, and stunting among children under five declining from 33% to 27%.

While these findings are important, periodic surveys provide only snapshots in time and may face limitations in methodology, scale, and recall. As Rwanda continues to strengthen its digital health ecosystem, routine real-time data systems including the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) system will become increasingly important for timely, precise, and actionable decision making.

I extend my sincere appreciation to all households, field teams, institutions, and partners whose contributions made this survey possible. Let us continue to use data and evidence to guide policy, prioritize investments, and improve the health and well-being of all Rwandans.


MOH
(Minister)

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We wish to recognize all stakeholders and development partners for their substantial contributions and financial support. In particular, we extend our special thanks to the Government of Rwanda, the World Bank Group, the European Union, United Nations Rwanda, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Rwanda Biomedical Centre (RBC), Partners in Health (PIH), Plan International, the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), Expertise France, the National Child Development Agency (NCDA), World Vision, the Gates Foundation, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF). The support of each of these partners was instrumental to the successful completion of the seventh Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (2025 RDHS).

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MURENZI Ivan

Director General of NISR



ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACT	artemisinin-based combination therapy
AHF	AIDS Healthcare Foundation
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
ANC	antenatal care
ARI	acute respiratory infection
ART	antiretroviral therapy
ARV	antiretroviral medicine
BCG	bacille Calmette-Guérin
BMI	body mass index
CAPI	computer-assisted personal interviewing
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CHAI	Clinton Health Access Initiative
CHW	community health worker
CI	confidence interval
CSPro	Census and Survey Processing System
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DMPA-SC	subcutaneous depot medroxyprogesterone acetate
DPT	diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus
EA	enumeration area
ECDI2030	Early Childhood Development Index 2030
EDPRS II	Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2013–2018
EIA	enzyme immunoassay
GAR	gross attendance ratio
GFR	general fertility rate
GPI	gender parity index
HepB	hepatitis B
Hib	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HPV	human papillomavirus
IHDPC	Institute of HIV/AIDS, Disease Prevention and Control
IPV	inactivated polio vaccine
IUD	intrauterine device
IYCF	infant and young child feeding
JMP	Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene
LAM	lactational amenorrhoea method
LPG	liquefied petroleum gas



MMI	Military Medical Insurance
MMR	maternal mortality ratio
MoH	Ministry of Health
MR	measles-rubella vaccine
MTCT	mother-to-child transmission
MUAC	mid-upper-arm circumference
NAR	net attendance ratio
NCD	noncommunicable disease
NCDA	National Child Development Agency
NISR	National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda
NRL	National Reference Laboratory
NTD	neglected tropical disease
OPV	oral polio vaccine
ORS	oral rehydration salts
ORT	oral rehydration therapy
PCV	pneumococcal conjugate vaccine
PIH	Partners in Health
PMTCT	prevention of mother-to-child transmission
PrEP	preexposure prophylaxis
PRMR	pregnancy-related mortality ratio
RAMA	Rwandaise d'Assurance Maladie
RBC	Rwanda Biomedical Centre
RDHS	Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey
RDT	rapid diagnostic test
RHF	government-recommended homemade fluids
RNEC	Rwanda National Ethics Committee
RPHC	Rwanda Population and Housing Census
RSSB	Rwandan Social Security Board
RV	rotavirus vaccine
SD	standard deviation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDM	standard days method
STI	sexually transmitted infection
TB	tuberculosis
TFR	total fertility rate
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNWOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
VCT	voluntary counselling and testing
VIA	visual inspection with acetic acid
VIP	ventilated improved pit
WFP	World Food Programme
WG	Washington Group on Disability Statistics
WHO	World Health Organization



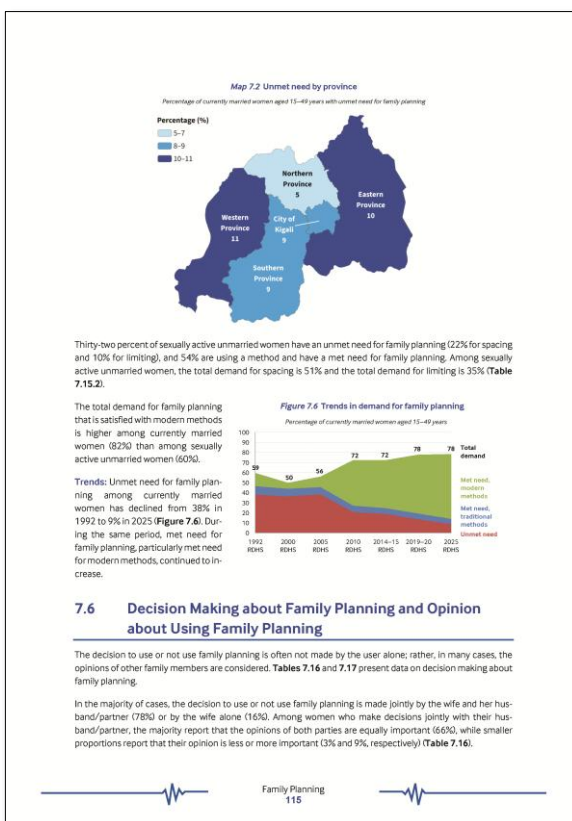


READING AND UNDERSTANDING TABLES FROM THE 2025 RWANDA DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY (RDHS)

The 2025 RDHS final report is based on approximately 200 tables of data. For quick reference, they are located at the end of each chapter and can be accessed through links in the pertinent text (electronic version). Additionally, this reader-friendly version features about 90 figures that clearly highlight trends, subnational patterns, and background characteristics. The text highlights key points in bullets and to clearly identify indicator definitions in boxes.

While the text and figures featured in each chapter highlight some of the most important findings from the tables, not every finding can be discussed or displayed graphically. For this reason, RDHS data users should be comfortable reading and interpreting tables.

The following pages provide an introduction to the organization of RDHS tables and the presentation of background characteristics, along with a brief summary of sampling and understanding denominators. In addition, this section provides some exercises for users as they practice their new skills in interpreting RDHS tables.



Example 1: Exposure to Mass Media

A Question Asked of All Survey Respondents

Table 3.4.1 Exposure to mass media: Women 1						
Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who are exposed to specific media on a weekly basis, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025						
Background characteristic	Reads a newspaper at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week 2	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Accesses all three media at least once a week	Accesses none of the three media at least once a week	Number of women
Age						
15–19	12.3	20.9	63.9	3.4	30.2	2,897
20–24	13.8	20.1	64.8	5.6	30.3	2,489
25–29	13.2	19.4	62.6	5.1	32.1	2,032
30–34 3	12.0	19.8	60.7	4.8	33.8	1,879
35–39	10.3	17.7	57.7	5.0	39.1	1,911
40–44	6.6	12.7	52.7		44.0	1,730
45–49	7.3	13.1	53.9	3.0	43.4	1,344
Residence						
Urban	17.7	38.1 5	63.8	9.3	26.8	4,570
Rural	8.2	8.9	58.7	1.8	39.0	9,713
Province						
City of Kigali	16.6	40.8	62.6	10.1	28.3	2,290
Southern Province	11.6	14.6	63.3	3.4	33.2	3,087
Western Province	8.9	13.2	57.4	2.1	38.7	2,949
Northern Province	10.7	10.3	68.0	2.8	29.8	2,089
Eastern Province	9.8	15.9	54.7	3.7	40.7	3,868
Education						
No education	0.4	5.3	37.9	0.2	60.5	929
Primary	5.1	10.6	55.8	0.9	41.5	7,938
Secondary	17.5	27.3	70.4	6.5	22.8	4,765
More than secondary	55.4	63.6	74.4	33.3	10.3	651
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	3.7	1.4	36.4	0.3	62.4	2,642
Second	5.1	2.5	54.0	0.3	44.5	2,738
Middle	7.5	4.2	65.5	0.6	32.6	2,746
Fourth	12.5	13.7	68.6	2.7	27.8	2,885
Highest	24.4	60.8	73.4	15.1	13.6	3,272
Total 4	11.2	18.2	60.3	4.2	35.1	14,283

Step 1: Read the title and subtitle, highlighted in orange in the table above. They tell you the topic and the specific population group being described. In this case, the table is about women age 15–49 and their exposure to different types of media. All eligible female respondents age 15–49 were asked these questions.

Step 2: Scan the column headings—highlighted in green in Example 1. They describe how the information is categorized. In this table, the first three columns of data show different types of media that women access at least once a week. The fourth column shows women who access all three types of media, while the fifth column shows women who do not access any of the three types of media on a weekly basis. The last column lists the number of women age 15–49 interviewed in the survey.

Step 3: Scan the row headings—the first vertical column highlighted in blue in Example 1. These show the different ways the data are divided into categories based on population characteristics. In this case, the table presents women’s exposure to media by age, urban-rural residence, province, level of education, and wealth quintile. Most of the tables in the RDHS report will be divided into these same categories.

Step 4: Look at the row at the bottom of the table highlighted in pink. These percentages represent the totals of all women age 15–49 and their weekly access to different types of media. In this case, 11.2% of women age 15–49 read a newspaper at least once a week, 18.2% watch television at least weekly, and 60.3% listen to the radio on a weekly basis.*

Step 5: Draw two imaginary lines, as shown on the table, to find out what percentage of women in rural areas listen to the radio. This shows that 58.7% of women age 15–49 in rural areas listen to the radio at least once a week.

By looking at patterns by background characteristics, we can see how exposure to mass media varies across Rwanda. Mass media are often used to communicate health messages. Knowing how mass media exposure varies among different groups can help program planners and policymakers determine how to most effectively reach their target populations.

*For the purpose of this document data are presented exactly as they appear in the table, including decimal places. However, the text in the remainder of this report rounds data to the nearest whole percentage point.

Practice: Use the table in Example 1 to answer the following questions:

a) What percentage of women in Rwanda do not access any of the three media at least once a week?
 b) Which age group of women is most likely to watch television at least once a week?
 c) Compare women by urban-rural residence—which group is more likely to read a newspaper at least once a week?
 d) What are the lowest and the highest percentages (range) of women who access none of the three media at least once a week by province?
 e) Is there a clear pattern in weekly exposure to newspapers by educational level?
 f) Is there a clear pattern in weekly exposure to television by wealth quintile?

Answers:
 a) 35.1%
 b) Women age 15–19: 20.9% of women in this age group watch television at least once a week.
 c) 17.7% of women in urban areas read a newspaper at least once a week, as compared with 8.2% of women in rural areas.
 d) Access to none of the three media ranges from a low of 28.8% in the City of Kigali to a high of 40.7% in Eastern Province.
 e) Yes. The percentage of women who read a newspaper at least once a week increases as educational level increases, from a low of 0.4% among those with no education to a high of 55.4% among those with more than a secondary education.
 f) Yes. The percentage of women who watch a television at least once a week increases with increasing wealth, from 1.4% in the lowest quintile to 60.8% among those in the highest wealth quintile.

Example 2: Children with Symptoms of ARI and Care Seeking for Symptoms of ARI

A Question Asked of a Subgroup of Survey Respondents

Table 10.6 Children with symptoms of ARI and careseeking for symptoms of ARI

Among children under aged 5 years, percentage who had symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the 2 weeks preceding the survey; and among children with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Among children under aged 5 years:		Among children under aged 5 years with symptoms of ARI:		Number of children
	Percentage with symptoms of ARI ¹	Number of children	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought ²	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought the same or next day ²	
Age in months					
<6	1.1	718	*	*	8
6–11	2.5	735	*	*	18
12–23	1.7	1,404	*	*	23
24–35	2.4	1,377	(74.9)	(31.6)	32
36–47	1.7	1,491	(87.7)	(40.4)	25
48–59	1.4	1,331	*	*	19
Sex					
Male	2.0	3,554	79.6	34.7	70
Female	1.6	3,502	89.0	31.8	56
Mother's smoking status					
Smokes cigarettes/tobacco	(1.0)	35	*	*	0
Does not smoke	1.8	7,020	83.7	33.2	126
Cooking fuels and technologies					
Clean fuel and technology ³	1.5	273	*	*	4
Solid fuel ⁴	1.8	6,772	85.3	34.2	122
Gasoline/diesel	*	1	*	*	0
Other fuel	*	3	*	*	0
No food cooked in household	*	7	*	*	0
Residence					
Urban	1.2	2,149	(72.8)	(38.4)	26
Rural	2.0	4,907	86.7	32.1	100
Province					
City of Kigali	0.8	1,013	*	*	8
Southern Province	2.5	1,518	(93.1)	(23.2)	37
Western Province	1.5	1,541	(76.7)	(43.3)	24
Northern Province	1.9	979	*	*	19
Eastern Province	1.9	2,004	(84.1)	(35.3)	38
Mother's education					
No education	1.6	437	*	*	7
Primary	2.1	4,291	86.1	29.7	91
Secondary	1.1	2,007	*	*	22
More than secondary	1.8	321	*	*	6
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	1.9	1,590	(80.2)	(28.2)	31
Second	2.8	1,399	(83.3)	(35.1)	39
Middle	1.8	1,378	*	*	24
Fourth	1.0	1,363	*	*	14
Highest	1.4	1,326	*	*	18
Total	1.8	7,056	83.8	33.4	126

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Symptoms of ARI include short, rapid breathing which was chest-related and/or difficult breathing which was chest-related.

² Includes advice or treatment from the following sources: public sector, private medical sector, and shop. Excludes advice or treatment from a traditional practitioner, church, friends, and relatives.

³ Includes stove/cookers using electricity, LPG/natural gas/biogas, solar, and alcohol/ethanol

⁴ Includes coal/lignite, charcoal, wood, straw/shrubs/grass, agricultural crops, and animal dung/waste, processed biomass (pellets) or woodchips, garbage/plastic, and sawdust

Step 1: Read the title and subtitle. In this case, the table is about two separate groups of (a) all children under age 5 and (b) children under age 5 with symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the 2 weeks before the survey.

Step 2: Identify the two panels. First, identify the columns that refer to all children under age 5 (a), and then isolate the columns that refer only to children under age 5 with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks before the survey (b).

Step 3: Look at the first panel. What percentage of children under age 5 had symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks before the survey? It is 1.8%. Now look at the second panel. How many children under age 5 had symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks before the survey? It's 126 children, or 1.8% of the 7,056 children under age 5 (with rounding). The second panel is a subset of the first panel.

Step 4: Only 1.8% of children under age 5 had symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks before the survey. Once these children are further divided into the background characteristic categories, there may be too few cases for the percentages to be reliable.

- What percentage of children under age 5 with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks in Western Province were taken for advice or treatment? It's 76.7%. This percentage is in parentheses because there are between 25 and 49 children (unweighted) in this category. Readers should use this number with caution—it may not be reliable. (For more information on weighted and unweighted numbers, see Example 3).
- What percentage of children under age 5 with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks before the survey whose mothers had more than a secondary education were taken for advice or treatment? There is no number in this cell—only an asterisk. This is because there are fewer than 25 unweighted cases. Results for this group are not reported. The subgroup is too small, and therefore the data are not reliable.

Note: When parentheses or asterisks are used in a table, the explanation will be noted under the table. If there are no parentheses or asterisks in a table, you can proceed with confidence that enough cases were included in all categories that the data are reliable.



Example 3: Understanding Sampling Weights in EDHS Tables

A sample is a group of people who have been selected for a survey.

In the RDHS, the sample is designed to represent the national population age 15–49. In addition to national data, most countries want to collect and report data on smaller geographical or administrative areas. However, doing so requires a large enough sample size in each area. For the 2025 RDHS, the survey sample is representative at the national and regional levels and for urban and rural areas.

Background characteristic	3 Weighted percent	Women	
		2 Weighted number	1 Unweighted number
Province			
City of Kigali	16.0	2,290	1,752
Southern Province	21.6	3,087	3,424
Western Province	20.6	2,949	3,227
Northern Province	14.6	2,089	2,228
Eastern Province	27.1	3,868	3,652
Total 15–49	100.0	14,283	14,283

To generate statistics that are representative of the country as a whole and the four provinces and the City of Kigali, the number of women surveyed in each region should contribute to the size of the total (national) sample in proportion to size of the province. However, if some provinces have small populations, then a sample allocated in proportion to each province's population may not include sufficient women from each province for analysis. To solve this problem, provinces with small populations are oversampled. For example, let's say that you have enough money to interview 14,283 women and want to produce results that are representative of Rwanda as a whole and its provinces (as in Table 3.1). However, the total population of Rwanda is not evenly distributed among the provinces: some, such as Eastern Province, are heavily populated while others, such as Kigali, are not. Thus, the City of Kigali must be oversampled.

A sampling statistician determines how many women should be interviewed in each province in order to get reliable statistics. The **blue column (1)** in the table above shows the actual number of women interviewed in each province. Within the provinces, the number of women interviewed ranges from 3,652 in Eastern Province to 1,752 in Kigali. The number of interviews is sufficient to get reliable results in each province.

With this distribution of interviews, some provinces are overrepresented and some provinces are underrepresented. For example, the population in Eastern Province is 27.1% of the population in Rwanda, while Kigali's population contributes 16.0% of the country's population. But as the blue column shows, the number of women interviewed in Eastern Province accounts for only about 25.6% of the total sample of women interviewed ($3,654/14,283$) and the number of women interviewed in Kigali accounts for 12.3% ($1,752/14,283$). This unweighted distribution of women does not accurately represent the population.

In order to get statistics that are representative of Rwanda, the distribution of the women in the sample needs to be weighted (or mathematically adjusted) such that it resembles the true distribution in the country. Women from a smaller region, like Kigali, should contribute only a small amount to the national total. Women from a larger region, like Eastern Province, should contribute much more. Therefore, DHS statisticians mathematically calculate a "weight" that is used to adjust the number of women from each region so that each region's contribution to the total is proportional to the actual population of the region. The numbers in the **purple column (2)** represent the "weighted" values. The weighted values can be smaller or larger than the unweighted values at the provincial level. The total national sample size of 14,283 women has not changed after weighting, but the distribution of the women in the provinces has been changed to represent their contribution to the total population size.

How do statisticians weight each category? They take into account the probability that a woman was selected in the sample. If you were to compare the **green column (3)** to the actual population distribution of Rwanda, you would see that women in each province are contributing to the total sample with the same weight that they contribute to the population of the country. The weighted number of women in the survey now accurately represents the proportion of women who live in Eastern Province and the proportion of women who live in Kigali.

With sampling and weighting, it is possible to interview enough women to provide reliable statistics at national and provincial levels. In general, only the weighted numbers are shown in each of the RDHS tables, so don't be surprised if these numbers seem low: they may actually represent a larger number of women interviewed.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS INDICATORS

Rwanda DHS 2025

Indicator	Residence		Total	DHS table number
	Urban	Rural		
1. No poverty				
1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services				
a) Access to basic sanitation services	60.1	75.7	71.3	16.6
b) Access to basic hygiene services	26.7	19.2	21.4	16.10
c) Access to electricity ¹	90.4	69.1	75.2	2.3
d) Access to clean fuels and technologies ²	14.6	1.2	5.0	2.4
	Sex			
	Male	Female	Total	
2. Zero hunger				
2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age	29.3	24.1	26.8	11.1
2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition among children under 5 years of age	7.2	4.8	6.0	-
a) Prevalence of wasting among children under 5 years of age	1.0	0.8	0.9	11.1
b) Prevalence of overweight among children under 5 years of age	6.2	4.0	5.1	11.1
3. Good health and well-being				
3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio ³	na	na	149	12.5
3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	na	na	98.1	9.9
3.2.1 Under-five mortality rate ⁴	40	32	36	8.2
3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate ⁴	20	14	17	8.2
3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods	na	81.3	na	7.15.2
3.7.2 Adolescent birth rates per 1,000 women				
a) Girls aged 10–14 years ⁵	na	0	na	5.1
b) Women aged 15–19 years ⁶	na	39	na	5.1
3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older ⁷	5.7	1.0	3.3 ^a	3.10
3.b.1 Proportion of the target population covered by all vaccines included in their national programme				
a) Coverage of DPT containing vaccine (3 rd dose) ⁸	96.9	98.2	97.5	10.4
b) Coverage of measles containing vaccine (2 nd dose) ⁹	92.4	92.7	92.6	10.4
c) Coverage of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (last dose in schedule) ¹⁰	96.2	96.9	96.6	10.4
d) Coverage of HPV vaccine (last dose in schedule) ¹¹	na	69.3	na	18.1
4. Quality education				
4.2.1 Proportion of children aged 24–59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being	69.1	74.0	71.6	10.15
4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age)	91.9	91.9	91.9	2.13
5. Gender equality				
5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months ^{12,13}	na	29.5	na	19.13.1
a) Physical violence	na	16.0	na	19.13.1
b) Sexual violence	na	7.9	na	19.13.1
c) Psychological violence	na	25.5	na	19.13.1
5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months ¹⁴	na	1.2	na	19.6
5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18				
a) Before age 15	na	0.1	na	4.4
b) Before age 18	na	5.6	na	4.4
5.6.1 Proportion of women aged 15–49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care ¹⁵	na	53.2	na	15.11
5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone ¹⁶	73.3	63.7	68.5 ^a	15..5.1 and 15.5.2
	Residence			
	Urban	Rural	Total	
6. Clean water and sanitation				
6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services				
a) Proportion with water available when needed	65.7	68.7	67.8	16.3
6.2.1 Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) hand-washing facility with soap and water				
a) Proportion using basic sanitation service	60.1	75.7	71.3	16.6
b) Proportion in which excreta are safely disposed of in situ or treated off site	92.5	78.6	82.5	16.8
c) Proportion using a hand-washing facility with soap and water	26.7	19.2	21.4	16.10
d) Proportion using open defecation	0.8	2.1	1.7	16.5

Continued...



Continued

Continued				
	Residence		Total	DHS table number
	Urban	Rural		
7. Affordable clean energy				
7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity ¹	90.4	69.1	75.2	2.3
7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology ²	14.6	1.2	5.0	2.4
	Sex		Total	
	Male	Female		
8. Decent work and economic growth				
8.10.2 Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider ¹⁶	74.0	63.1	68.6 ^a	15.5.1 and 15.5.2
16. Peace, justice, and strong institutions				
16.2.3 Proportion of young women [and men] aged 18–29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18	2.3	9.1	5.7 ^a	19.7
16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority	95.5	94.8	95.1	2.10
17. Partnerships for the goals				
17.8.1 Proportion of individuals using the Internet ¹⁷	35.0	25.5	30.3 ^a	3.5.1 and 3.5.2

na = Not applicable

¹ Persons living in households that report the primary source of lighting is electricity or solar lantern/standalone solar system

² Persons living in households that report no cooking, no space heating, or no lighting are not excluded from the numerator

³ Expressed in terms of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in the 5-year period preceding the survey

⁴ Expressed in terms of deaths per 1,000 live births for the 5-year period preceding the survey

⁵ Equivalent to the age-specific fertility rate for girls age 10–14 for the 3-year period preceding the survey, expressed in terms of births per 1,000 girls age 10–14

⁶ Equivalent to the age-specific fertility rate for women age 15–19 for the 3-year period preceding the survey, expressed in terms of births per 1,000 women age 15–19

⁷ Data are not age-standardized and are available for women and men age 15–49 only.

⁸ The percentage of children age 12–23 months who received three doses of DPT-HepB-Hib

⁹ The percentage of children age 24–35 months who received two doses of measles and rubella

¹⁰ The percentage of children age 12–23 months who received three doses of pneumococcal

¹¹ The percentage of women age 15–17 who received two doses of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine

¹² Data are available for women age 15–49 who have ever been in union only.

¹³ In the DHS, psychological violence is termed emotional violence.

¹⁴ Data are available for women age 15–49 only.

¹⁵ Data are available for currently married women only.

¹⁶ Data are available for women and men age 15–49 only.

¹⁷ Data are available for women and men age 15–49 who have used the Internet in the last 12 months.

^a The total is calculated as the simple arithmetic mean of the percentages in the columns for males and females.





MAP OF RWANDA



The 2025 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (RDHS) is the seventh Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) conducted in Rwanda, following those implemented in 1992, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2014–15, and 2019–20. The survey was carried out by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the Rwanda Biomedical Centre (RBC). Funding for the 2025 RDHS was provided by the Government of Rwanda, the World Bank Group, the European Union, United Nations Rwanda, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO), Expertise France, the National Child Development Agency (NCDA), World Vision, the Gates Foundation, the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Rwanda Biomedical Centre (RBC), Partners in Health (PIH), Plan International, and the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF). Data collection took place from 5 June 2025 to 25 October 2025 and was coordinated and supervised by trained experts from NISR, RBC, NCDA, MoH, and ICF.

1.1 Survey Objectives

The primary objective of the 2025 RDHS is to provide up-to-date estimates of fundamental demographic and health indicators. Specifically, the survey collected information on fertility, awareness and use of family planning methods, breastfeeding practices, nutritional status of women and children, maternal and child health, adult and childhood mortality, women’s empowerment, domestic violence, awareness and behaviour regarding HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and other health-related issues. Additionally, the survey measured anthropometry and conducted tests to measure the prevalence of anemia and HIV.

The information collected through the 2025 RDHS is intended to assist policymakers and programme managers in designing and evaluating programmes and strategies for improving the health of the country’s population. The survey also provides indicators relevant to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for Rwanda.

1.2 Sample Design

The sampling frame used for the 2025 RDHS is the fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census (RPHC), conducted in 2022 by the NISR. The sampling frame is a complete list of enumeration areas (EAs) covering the entire country provided by the NISR, which is also the implementing agency for the 2025 RDHS. An EA is defined as a natural village or a part of a village, created for the 2022 RPHC to serve as the counting unit for the census.

The 2025 RDHS followed a two-stage sample design to produce estimates of key indicators at the national level as well as for urban and rural areas and the country’s five provinces. In the case of some indicators, the sample was also designed to produce estimates for each of Rwanda’s 30 districts. In the first stage of selection, sample points (clusters) were selected from the list of EAs delineated for the 2022 RPHC. A total of 560 clusters were selected, 198 in urban areas and 362 in rural areas.

The second stage of selection involved systematic sampling of households. A household listing operation was undertaken in all selected EAs from 18 December 2024 to 5 March 2025, and households were randomly selected from these lists to be included in the survey. Twenty-six households were selected from each sample point, for a total sample size of 14,560 households. Due to the approximately equal sample sizes allocated to each district, the sample is not self-weighting at the national level, and weighting factors have been added to the data file to ensure that the results are proportional at the national level.



All women aged 15–49 years who were either permanent residents of the selected households or visitors who stayed in the household the night before the survey were eligible to be interviewed. In half of the households, all men aged 15–59 years who were either permanent residents of the selected households or visitors who stayed in the household the night before the survey were eligible to be interviewed. In all selected households, children under age 5 were eligible to be measured for height and weight. In the subsample of households selected for the men’s survey, women aged 15–49 years and men aged 15–59 years were eligible for height and weight measurements and HIV testing. In the same subsample, women age 15–49 and children age 6–59 months were eligible for anemia testing. The domestic violence module for men was implemented in households selected for the male interview, and the domestic violence module for women was implemented in the remaining 50% of households that were not selected for the male interview.

1.3 Questionnaires

Five questionnaires were used for the 2025 RDHS: the Household Questionnaire, the Woman’s Questionnaire, the Man’s Questionnaire, the Biomarker Questionnaire, and the Fieldworker Questionnaire. The questionnaires were based on The DHS Program’s standard Demographic and Health Survey questionnaires (DHS-8 version) and were adapted to reflect the population and health issues relevant to Rwanda. Comments were solicited from various stakeholders representing government ministries and agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and development partners. The survey protocol was reviewed and approved by the Rwanda National Ethics Committee (RNEC). After all questionnaires were finalized in English, they were translated into Kinyarwanda. The 2025 RDHS used computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) for data collection.

The Household Questionnaire listed all members of and visitors to the selected households. Basic demographic information was collected for each person listed, including age, sex, marital status, education, and relationship to the head of the household. For children under age 18, the survival status of their parents was determined. Data on the age and sex of household members were used to identify women and men eligible for individual interviews. The Household Questionnaire also collected information on characteristics of the household’s dwelling unit, such as source of drinking water; type of toilet facilities; materials used for flooring, external walls, and roofing; and ownership of various durable goods. In addition, a disability module was included in this questionnaire.

The Woman’s Questionnaire was used to collect information from all eligible women aged 15–49 years. These women were asked questions on the following topics:

- Background characteristics (including age, education, and media exposure)
- Birth history and child mortality
- Knowledge, use, and source of family planning methods
- Antenatal, delivery, and postnatal care
- Vaccinations and childhood illnesses
- Breastfeeding and infant feeding practices
- Women’s minimum dietary diversity
- Marriage and sexual activity
- Fertility preferences (including desire for more children and ideal number of children)
- Women’s work and husbands’ background characteristics
- Knowledge, awareness, and behaviour regarding HIV and other STIs
- Knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour related to other health issues (e.g., smoking)
- Early childhood development
- Human papillomavirus vaccination
- Cervical cancer
- Adult and maternal mortality
- Domestic violence



The Man's Questionnaire was administered to all men aged 15–59 years in the subsample of households selected for the men's survey. The Man's Questionnaire collected much of the same information as the Woman's Questionnaire; however, it was shorter because it did not contain a detailed reproductive history or questions on maternal and child health.

The Biomarker Questionnaire was used to record the results of anthropometric measurements and other biomarkers for women, men, and children. Anthropometric measurements for children were conducted in all households. Tests for anemia and HIV were administered in the 50% of households selected for the men's survey.

The Fieldworker Questionnaire recorded background information from the interviewers that will serve as a tool in conducting analyses of data quality. Each interviewer completed the self-administered questionnaire after the final selection of interviewers and before the fieldworkers entered the field. No personal identifiers were attached to the 2025 RDHS fieldworkers' data file.

The interviewers used tablet computers for data collection. The tablet computers were equipped with Bluetooth® technology to enable electronic transfer of files, such as assignments from team supervisors to interviewers, individual questionnaires to survey team members, and completed questionnaires from interviewers back to team supervisors. The computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) data collection system employed in the 2025 RDHS was developed by The DHS Program using the mobile version of CSPro and was adapted by the NISR team.

1.4 Anthropometry, Anemia, and HIV Testing

Anthropometric measurements were collected for children aged 0–5 years in the full sample of households. Within the subsample of households selected for the male survey, anemia testing was performed for children aged 6–59 months and for women aged 15–49 years. In these same households, anthropometric measurements and HIV testing were performed for both eligible men aged 15–59 years and women aged 15–49 years.

Anthropometry: Height and weight measurements were recorded for children aged 0–5 years, women aged 15–49 years, and men aged 15–59 years. The 2025 RDHS included quality assurance procedures to improve anthropometric data quality such as the use of standard weight calibrators and standard-length rods, undertaken in real time during data collection. Quality assurance procedures also included remeasurement on a subsequent day for two groups: (1) all children whose initial measurement fell outside prespecified flagged values and (2) a randomly selected 10% of all measured children.

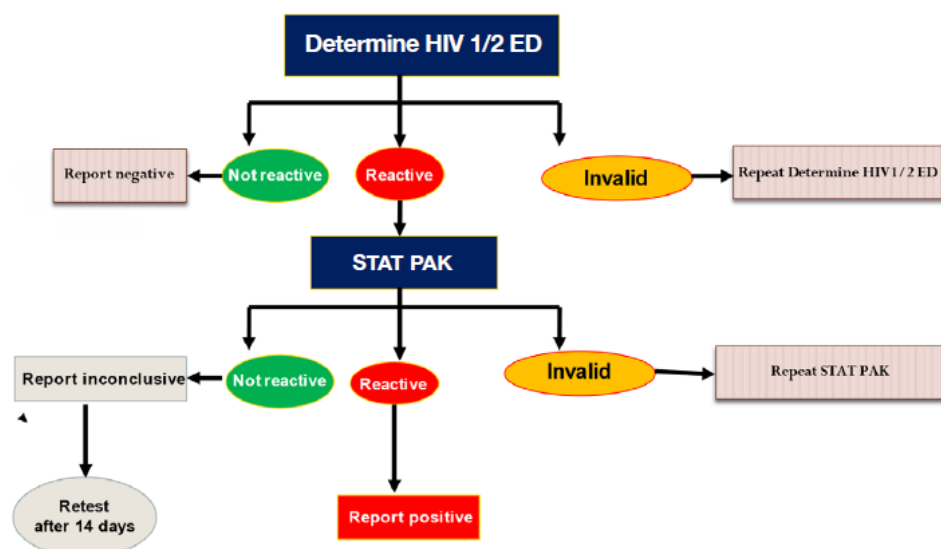
Anemia testing: Venous blood specimens for hemoglobin measurement were collected from women aged 15–49 years and from children aged 6–59 months for whom consent was obtained from a parent or guardian. Blood samples were drawn via venous puncture, and a drop of blood from the sample was collected in a microcuvette. Hemoglobin analysis was carried out on-site using a battery-operated portable HemoCue 201+ analyzer. Results were provided verbally and in writing within the household. Parents or guardians of children with a hemoglobin level below 7 g/dl were instructed to take the child to a health facility for follow-up care. Likewise, women were referred for follow-up care if their hemoglobin levels were below 7 g/dl. Results of the anemia testing are not included in this report and will be published in a separate document.

HIV testing: In the subsample selected for the men's survey, women and men who were interviewed with the individual questionnaire were eligible for HIV testing. The survey featured a parallel system for HIV testing in which an algorithm based on rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) was performed in the household for respondents who wished to be informed of their status, and dried blood spot (DBS) specimens were collected and transported to a central laboratory for anonymized testing. HIV prevalence for the survey is based on the DBS laboratory test results.



The rapid testing in the household followed Rwanda's national HIV testing algorithm (**Figure 1.1**). The algorithm was conducted using blood from the venous blood draw. Results were returned at the time of the test, and individuals with a positive or inconclusive test result were referred for further testing and care.

Figure 1.1 Algorithm for home-based HIV testing



The Rwanda HIV rapid testing algorithm applies two tests in sequence: the Determine HIV 1/2 (Early Detect) test (Abbott Diagnostics) and the HIV 1/2 STAT-PAK test (Chembio Diagnostic Systems, Inc.).

Individuals with a nonreactive result on the first test were reported as HIV negative. The first test was repeated for individuals with invalid results. Individuals with a reactive first test result proceeded to subsequent testing with the STAT-PAK test.

Individuals with a reactive result on both HIV tests were informed that their test result was HIV positive and were referred to the nearest health facility for verification testing and subsequent enrolment into care, as required by the national testing algorithm. Individuals with a reactive first test result followed by a nonreactive result on the second test result were classified as inconclusive and referred for retesting after 14 days, as per the national guidelines. The second test was repeated for individuals with invalid results.

HIV rapid testing was conducted by dedicated nurse counsellors who provided pretest and posttest counselling. Pretest counselling included an explanation of HIV infection and transmission, the meaning of test results, risks associated with sexual behaviours, and methods for preventing and treating HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. Posttest counselling messages were tailored to the participant's HIV results and risk profile. Testing and delivery of results at home were carried out under conditions that would guarantee the confidentiality of the respondents.

The protocol for centralized laboratory testing for HIV was based on the anonymous linked protocol developed for this survey. This protocol allows for merging of HIV test results with the background characteristics and other data collected with the individual questionnaires after removal of all information that could potentially identify an individual.

Interviewers explained the procedure, the confidentiality of the data, and the fact that the laboratory test results could not be made available to the respondent. If consent was given for laboratory testing for HIV, five blood spots were made on a filter paper card from the venous blood draw. To track the DBS samples, a unique and random barcoded identification number was assigned to each participant. Sheets of peel-off labels with the



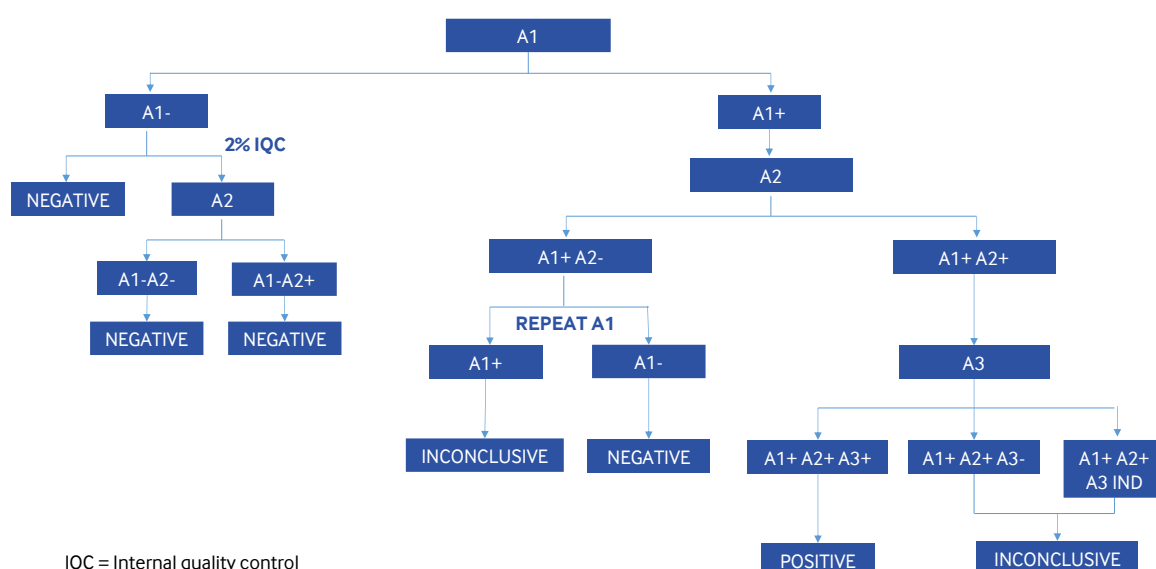
unique barcodes were preprinted for use in the field. Matching barcode labels were affixed to the filter paper card, the Biomarker Questionnaire, and a blood sample transmittal sheet.

Blood samples were dried overnight and packaged for storage the following morning. Approximately every 2 weeks or more frequently, all DBS samples and transmittal sheets were collected from teams in the field by central office supervisors and transported to the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for processing and registration. Upon arrival at the NRL, each blood sample was logged into the CPro HIV Test Tracking System database and assigned a unique, serial laboratory number before being stored in a freezer at -20°C until testing.

The HIV testing protocol stipulated that blood could be tested only after questionnaire data collection had been completed, the data had been verified and cleaned, and all unique identifiers other than the anonymous barcode number had been removed from the data file. The DBS laboratory testing took place from 4 May 2026 to 9 June 2026.

The laboratory algorithm for HIV testing complied with the 2024 WHO HIV testing guidelines (WHO 2024) and used assays from the list of WHO prequalified in vitro diagnostics. It included two enzyme immunoassays (EIAs) and a highly specific confirmatory assay for the third test, as shown in **Figure 1.2**. The first assay was Murex HIV Ag/Ab Combination EIA (DiaSorin, UK), the second was GenScreen Ultra HIV Ag-Ab EIA (Bio-Rad, USA), and the third was Geenius HIV 1/2 Supplemental Assay (Bio-Rad, USA).

Figure 1.2 Algorithm for laboratory-based HIV testing



All specimens were tested on the first assay. Those specimens found to be reactive on the first assay were tested on the second assay. Specimens that were reactive on the second assay were tested on the third assay. Specimens with HIV positive results on the third test were classified as HIV positive, and those with negative or indeterminate results on the third test were classified as inconclusive. Specimens found to be nonreactive on the second assay were tested again on the first assay. If the repeat result on the first assay was nonreactive, the specimen was classified as negative. If the result of the first assay was reactive a second time, the specimen was classified as inconclusive. All specimens that were nonreactive on the first assay were classified as HIV negative. For internal quality assurance purposes, 2% of specimens that were nonreactive on the first assay were tested on the second assay; the results on the second assay did not affect the final classification for those specimens. All test results were managed by the CPro HIV Test Tracking System developed by The DHS Program.

All households, whether or not they were part of the subsample for anthropometry, anemia, and HIV testing, were given a brochure explaining the causes and prevention of anemia and HIV. All respondents (whether they participated in the HIV testing or not) were given an informational brochure on HIV and a list of nearby sites



providing HIV voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) services. Respondents who consented to the HIV testing were given a voucher for transportation and a meal if they wished to receive free VCT services.

1.5 Pretest

A pretest was conducted from 1–26 April 2025 during which 20 candidates (nurses) participated in questionnaire training. Additionally, eight biomarker health technicians participated in biomarker training, which was conducted separately in parallel. The questionnaire training was conducted from 1–14 April. The training included discussions of the different sections and modules of the questionnaires, mock interviews, role play, group work, presentations, and in-class practice sessions. Training was conducted by trainers from NISR and MoH/RBC, with technical assistance from three individual consultants who had extensive experience with The DHS Program.

The CAPI training was conducted by NISR data processing coordinators who focused on the technical components of the CAPI data collection system, with support from one of the expert consultants. The training focused on key components of the survey, interview techniques and procedures for completing the RDHS questionnaires, and administration of interviews using the CAPI system.

The biomarker training was facilitated by one of the expert consultants and included training on collecting height and weight measurements and testing for anemia and HIV. It provided theory and practice on venous blood draw and a standardization exercise for anthropometry. The participants worked in groups using various training techniques, including interactive question-and-answer sessions, case studies, and role plays. Before starting the fieldwork, the participants were given ample opportunities to practice the questionnaires and the collection of biomarkers among men, women, and children.

Following completion of classroom training, pretest fieldwork was carried out in Musanze district in practice clusters that were not selected for the main survey. Each team carried out the pretest in either an urban or a rural location, completing four clusters in total. The participants administered the questionnaires in the field, provided feedback on the content and language of the questionnaires and on the biomarker procedures, tested the CAPI program, and learned various training techniques. Following the field practice, a debriefing session was held with the pretest field staff, and modifications were made to the questionnaires and CAPI programme based on lessons drawn from the exercise.

1.6 Training of Field Staff

The main training for the 2025 Rwanda DHS started on 5 May 2025 and ended on 3 June 2025. A total of 173 participants from all over the country were invited to attend the training at the NISR Training Centre. Selection was based on merit. Of the participants, 121 were selected to serve as interviewers and team leaders, and 52 were selected as health technicians. The training sessions were held in the main auditorium of the NISR Training Centre and were conducted by NISR trainers. Training on biomarkers was provided by trainers from NISR and MoH/RBC. The same three expert consultants who supported the pretest provided technical support for all training sessions.

Participants were evaluated based on both classroom performance and observations made during field practice. By the end of the main training, 20 data collection teams had been formed, each comprising one team leader, one male interviewer, three female interviewers, and two biomarker technicians. The team leaders received additional training on identifying selected EAs and households, understanding the different subsamples, implementing data quality control procedures, and fieldwork coordination.

The biomarker training utilized a variety of different learning tools. Plenary lectures were held on the technical aspects of biomarker collection. Other tools included presentations and hands-on demonstrations of the



biomarker collection process, instructions on how to fill out the questionnaire and transmittal sheets, and instructions on data quality procedures. In addition, break-out sessions were held daily to provide trainees with opportunities for hands-on practice with both adults and children. The anthropometry standardization exercises were carried out at a community health centre. Following the standardization exercise, the results were presented, and general observations regarding accuracy (the difference between the reference value and the participant's value) and precision (the difference between the first and second readings) were discussed. During the 3-day field practice, random remeasurements were implemented for quality assurance, along with remeasurement of all children whose z score values were less than -3 or greater than 3. After the field practice, a debriefing was held before the teams proceeded to data collection.

The field coordinators were trained on the use of the field check tables to monitor inconsistencies in and the status, process, completeness, and quality of field data collection.

1.7 Fieldwork

Data collection was carried out by 20 field teams. Each team was provided with a four-wheel drive truck and a driver, as well as a pickup for the biomarker technicians and their materials, also with a driver. All DBS specimens were transferred to the NISR office every 3 to 4 days by field supervisors and coordinators, after which they were transferred from NISR to the RBC/National Reference Laboratory, where they were registered and stored professionally.

The fieldwork for the 2025 RDHS was carried out under close supervision and coordination starting on 5 June 2025 in the clusters of the first 20 districts, where one team was responsible for one district. These 20 districts included all districts of the Southern, Eastern, and Northern Provinces and one district in the Western Province. The teams were closely monitored by the field coordinators for quality control. After completion of the fieldwork in the first 20 districts, all teams were then dispatched to the final 10 districts. Data collection for the 2025 RDHS was completed on 25 October 2025.

Fieldwork monitoring was an integral part of the 2025 RDHS, and several rounds of monitoring were carried out by survey supervisors and coordinators from NISR and MoH/RBC. Training was provided on how to use the field check tables to monitor the fieldwork. The field check tables were generated regularly from the team leaders' tablets and were accessed by all supervisors and coordinators, whose feedback was communicated regularly to the teams.

1.8 Data Processing

The processing of the 2025 RDHS data began almost as soon as the fieldwork started. As data collection was completed in each cluster, all electronic data files were transferred via the Internet File Streaming System to the NISR central office in Kigali. These data files were registered and checked for inconsistencies, incompleteness, and outliers. The field teams were alerted to any inconsistencies and errors. Secondary editing, carried out in the central office, involved resolving inconsistencies and coding the open-ended questions. The NISR data processor, along with the data processing consultant, coordinated the exercise at the central office. The biomarker paper questionnaires were compared with electronic data files to check for any inconsistencies in data entry. Data entry and editing were carried out using the CSPro software package. The concurrent processing of the data offered a distinct advantage because it maximized the likelihood that the data would be error-free and accurate. Furthermore, the availability of field check tables on demand enabled effective monitoring. The secondary editing of the data was completed in the first week of November 2025.

The figures presented in the tables throughout this report reflect weighted numbers unless otherwise noted. Percentages based on 25 to 49 unweighted cases are shown in parentheses, while percentages based on fewer



than 25 unweighted cases are suppressed and replaced with an asterisk, to caution readers that percentages based on fewer than 50 cases may not be statistically reliable.

1.9 Response Rates

Table 1.1 shows the response rates for the 2025 RDHS. A total of 14,560 households were selected for the sample, of which 14,434 were occupied. All but seven occupied households (14,427) were successfully interviewed, yielding a response rate of nearly 100%. Among the interviewed households, 14,396 women aged 15–49 years were eligible for individual interviews; interviews were completed with 14,283 women, yielding a response rate of 99%. In the subsample selected for the male survey, 7,280 households were selected, of which 7,218 were occupied. All but four occupied households (7,214) were successfully interviewed, yielding a response rate of more than 99%. Within this subsample, 6,667 men aged 15–59 years were identified, and 6,548 were successfully interviewed, yielding a response rate of 98%.

Table 1.1 Results of the household and individual interviews

Number of households, number of interviews, and response rates, according to residence (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Result	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Household interviews			
Households selected	5,148	9,412	14,560
Households occupied	5,076	9,358	14,434
Households interviewed	5,073	9,354	14,427
Household response rate ¹	99.9	100.0	100.0
Interviews with women aged 15–49 years			
Number of eligible women	5,344	9,052	14,396
Number of eligible women interviewed	5,295	8,988	14,283
Eligible women response rate ²	99.1	99.3	99.2
Household interviews in subsample			
Households selected	2,574	4,706	7,280
Households occupied	2,539	4,679	7,218
Households interviewed	2,538	4,676	7,214
Household response rate in subsample ¹	100.0	99.9	99.9
Interviews with men aged 15–59 years			
Number of eligible men	2,397	4,270	6,667
Number of eligible men interviewed	2,324	4,224	6,548
Eligible men response rate ²	97.0	98.9	98.2

¹ Households interviewed/households occupied

² Respondents interviewed/eligible respondents

¹ Households interviewed/households occupied

² Respondents interviewed/eligible respondents



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS AND HOUSEHOLD POPULATION

Key Findings

- **Electricity:** 74% of households have access to electricity.
- **Clean fuels and technologies:** Only 7% of households use clean fuels and technologies for cooking, while 43% rely on a three-stone stove/open fire.
- **Household composition:** 39% of the household population is under age 15.
- **Birth registration:** 95% of children under age 5 have their births registered.

Information on the socioeconomic characteristics of the household population in the 2025 RDHS provides a context for interpreting demographic and health indicators and offers an approximate indication of the survey's representativeness. Furthermore, it provides insight into the living conditions of the population.

This chapter covers housing characteristics, household possessions, use of clean fuels and technologies for cooking and lighting, wealth, household population and composition, children's living arrangements and orphanhood, birth registration, educational attainment, school attendance, health insurance coverage, animal bites, and neglected tropical diseases.

2.1 Housing Characteristics

The survey collected data on access to electricity, flooring materials, the number of rooms used for sleeping, and the frequency of smoking inside the home. Overall, 74% of households in Rwanda have access to electricity. The most common flooring materials are earth and sand, used by 53% of households, and cement, used by 37% of households (**Table 2.1**).

Approximately two in five households (41%) have three or more rooms for sleeping; 38% have two rooms, and 22% have only one room. In 8% of households, someone smokes inside the house on a daily basis, and in 2% of households someone smokes inside on a weekly basis.

2.1.1 Use of Clean Fuels and Technologies

Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies

The percentage of the population using clean fuels and technologies for cooking and lighting, where each component is defined as follows:

Clean cooking fuels and technologies

Include stoves or cookers using electricity, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)/natural gas or biogas, solar, and alcohol or ethanol.

Clean lighting fuels and technologies

Include electricity, solar lanterns, battery-powered or rechargeable flashlights/torches/lanterns, and biogas lamps.

Sample: Households and de jure population

2.1.2 Cooking

Cooking is one of the major activities of most households. It contributes to energy consumption and, depending on the type of fuel and cooking technology used, places the household at risk of exposure to smoke and injury from accidental fires. In Rwanda, 18% of households cook inside the home, 62% cook in a separate building, and 19% cook outdoors (in the open). Only 5% of the household population in Rwanda uses clean fuels and technologies for cooking, primarily LPG or natural gas stoves (4%). The most common cooking technologies are traditional solid fuel stoves, used by 50% of the population, and three-stone stoves or open fires (44%). The most common type of traditional solid fuel stove used is a stove without a chimney (34%) (**Table 2.2**).

2.1.3 Lighting

Ninety-eight percent of the population uses clean fuels and technologies for lighting. Electricity is the most common clean fuel or technology used for lighting (75%), including 54% from grid connections and 21% from standalone solar systems or solar lanterns; 16% of the population uses battery-powered flashlights/torches/lanterns (**Table 2.3**).

2.1.4 Primary Reliance on Clean Fuels and Technologies

Five percent of the population uses clean fuels and technologies for cooking, space heating, and lighting. Reliance on clean fuels is much more common in urban areas than in rural areas (15% versus 1%). Also, reliance on clean fuels is much higher in the highest wealth quintile (21%) than in the lower four quintiles (3% or lower) (**Table 2.4**).

2.2 Household Wealth

2.2.1 Household Durable Goods

Table 2.5 presents information on ownership of various household effects, means of transportation, agricultural land, and livestock or farm animals. Urban households are generally more likely than rural households to own various household assets; for example, 33% of urban households own television sets, as compared with 7% of rural households. However, rural households are more likely to own agricultural land (60%) than urban households (20%). Rural households are also more likely to own farm animals (64% versus 21%).



2.2.2 Wealth Index

Wealth index

Households are given scores based on the number and types of consumer goods they own, ranging from a television to a bicycle or car, as well as housing characteristics such as source of drinking water, toilet facilities, and flooring materials. These scores are derived using principal component analysis. National wealth quintiles are compiled by assigning the household score to each usual (de jure) household member, ranking each person in the household population by her or his score, and then dividing the distribution into five equal categories, each comprising 20% of the population.

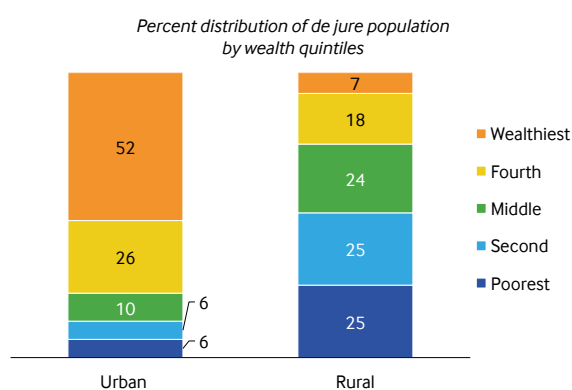
Sample: Households

Table 2.6 presents wealth quintiles according to urban-rural residence and province. The table also includes the Gini coefficient, a measure of disparity in wealth. The Gini coefficient ranges from 0 to 1, with 0 implying an equal distribution of wealth and 1 implying a totally unequal distribution.

The Southern Province has the highest percentage of the population in the lowest wealth quintile (28%). More than half of the population (55%) in the City of Kigali is in the highest wealth quintile (**Table 2.6**).

Fifty-two percent of the population in urban areas falls into the highest wealth quintile, as compared with 7% of the population in rural areas. Half of the rural population is in either the lowest (25%) or the second lowest (25%) wealth quintile (**Figure 2.1**).

Figure 2.1 Household wealth by residence



2.3 Household Population and Composition

Household

A person or a group of related or unrelated persons who live together in the same dwelling unit(s), acknowledge one adult male or female as the head of the household, share the same housekeeping arrangements, and are considered a single unit.

De facto population

All persons who stayed in the selected households the night before the interview, regardless of whether they were usual residents or visitors.

De jure population

All persons who are usual residents of the selected households, regardless of whether they stayed in the household the night before the interview.

How data are calculated

All tables are based on the de facto population unless otherwise specified.

The 2025 RDHS included a total of 55,413 de facto household members, of whom 26,127 were male and 29,286 were female. **Table 2.7** shows that 39% of the population is aged 0–14 years, 56% is aged 15–64 years, and only 5% is aged 65 years and above.

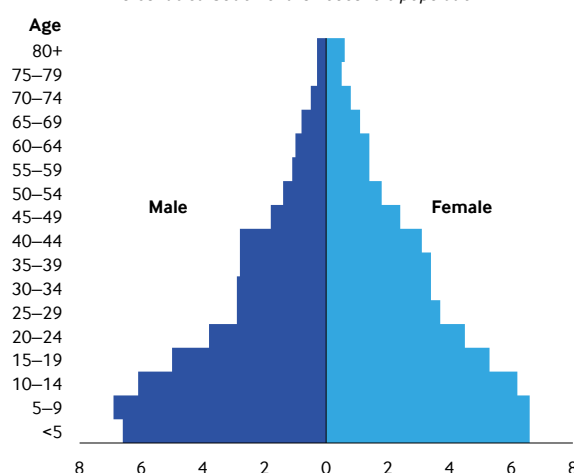
Figure 2.2 shows the de facto household population by 5-year age groups and by sex. The broad base of the pyramid indicates that Rwanda’s population is relatively young. This type of age distribution is characteristic of countries with relatively high fertility and relatively low life expectancy.

Table 2.8 shows that women head 30% of households in Rwanda. The average household size is 3.9 persons, with a small difference between urban households (3.7 persons) and rural households (4.0 persons). Overall, 19% of households include children who are orphans or who do not live with either biological parent.

Trends: The age composition of the de facto population in the 2025 RDHS is similar to that observed in the 2019–20 RDHS.

Figure 2.2 Population pyramid

Percent distribution of the household population



2.4 Children’s Living Arrangements and Parental Survival

Orphan

A child with one or both parents who are dead.

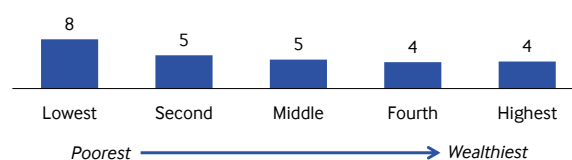
Sample: Children under age 18

Eleven percent of children under age 18 are not living with a biological parent, while 5% are orphans (i.e., one or both parents are dead). The percentage of children under age 18 who are orphans slightly declines with increasing household wealth (**Figure 2.3**). The percentage of children who are either orphans or not living with a biological parent increases with age. For example, among children aged 15–17 years, 12% had lost one or both parents, and 19% were not living with a biological parent (**Table 2.9**).

Trends: The percentage of children under age 18 who do not live with a biological parent remained approximately the same between 2019–20 and 2025 (10% and 11%, respectively).

Figure 2.3 Orphanhood by household wealth

Percentage of children under age 18 with one or both parents dead



2.5 Birth Registration

Registered birth

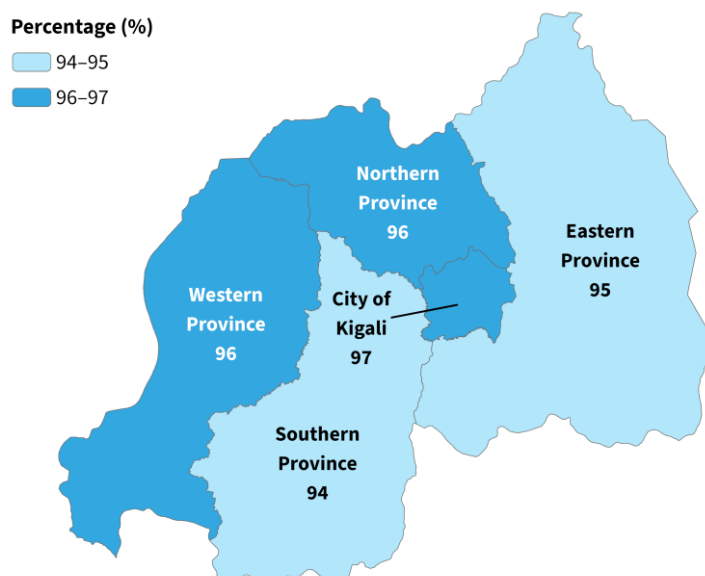
A child has a birth certificate, or a child does not have a birth certificate but the birth is registered with the civil authorities.

Sample: De jure children under age 5

Table 2.10 presents information on the percentage of children under age 5 who have a birth certificate and the percentage who do not have a birth certificate but whose birth has been registered with the civil authorities. Overall, 95% of children under age 5 had their births registered with the civil authorities. Forty-six percent of children have a birth certificate, and 50% of children have been registered but do not have a birth certificate. By province, birth registration ranges from 94% in the Southern Province to 97% in the City of Kigali (**Map 2.1**).

Map 2.1 Birth registration by province

Percentage of de jure children under age 5 whose births are registered with the civil authorities



Trends: The percentage of children under age 5 whose births are registered with the civil authorities has increased over time, from 86% in 2019–20 to 95% in 2025.

2.6 Education

2.6.1 Educational Attainment

Median educational attainment

Half of the population has completed fewer years of schooling than the median, and half of the population has completed more years of schooling than the median.

Sample: De facto household population aged 6 years and older

Education is one of the most important aspects of social and economic development. It enhances capabilities and is strongly associated with various socioeconomic variables such as lifestyle, income, and fertility for both

individuals and societies. Among women, 49% have some primary education and 15% have completed primary school, as compared with 53% and 15% of men. A smaller proportion of household members have no education (13% of women and 10% of men) (**Tables 2.11.1** and **2.11.2**). The median number of years of completed education is 3.9 among women and 3.7 among men.

Trends: The percentage of females aged 6 years and above with no education has demonstrated a slight decrease from 15% in 2019–20 to 13% in 2025. The percentage of the male population with no education has remained fairly stable (11% in 2019–20 and 10% in 2025). The median number of years of schooling has increased from 3.8 to 3.9 among women and remained unchanged at 3.7 among men.

2.6.2 Primary and Secondary School Attendance

Net attendance ratio (NAR)

The percentage of the school-age population that attends primary or secondary school.

Sample: Children aged 6–11 years for primary school NAR and children aged 12–17 years for secondary school NAR

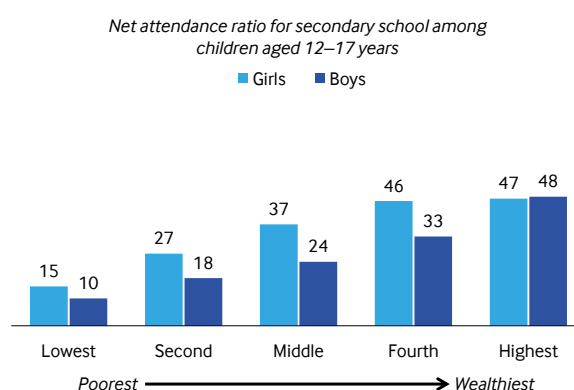
Gross attendance ratio (GAR)

The total number of children attending primary school divided by the official primary school-age population, and the total number of children attending secondary school divided by the official secondary school-age population.

Sample: Children aged 6–11 years for primary school GAR and children aged 12–17 years for secondary school GAR

School attendance ratios are presented in **Table 2.12**. The net attendance ratio (NAR) at the primary level is 94% for girls and 92% for boys. The NAR drops at the secondary level, with 34% of girls and 25% of boys attending secondary school. The NAR for secondary school increases as household wealth increases for both boys and girls (**Figure 2.4**). The gross attendance ratio (GAR) for primary school is 135 for girls and 138 for boys; the GAR for secondary school is 49 for girls and 39 for boys (**Table 2.12**).

Figure 2.4 Secondary school attendance by household wealth



Gender parity index (GPI)

The ratio of female to male students attending primary school and the ratio of female to male students attending secondary school. The index reflects the magnitude of the gender gap.

Sample: Primary school students and secondary school students

A GPI of 1 indicates parity or equality between male and female school participation ratios. A GPI lower than 1 indicates a gender disparity in favour of males, with a higher proportion of males than females attending the specified level of schooling. A GPI higher than 1 indicates a gender disparity in favour of females. In Rwanda, the NAR-based GPI is 1.02 for primary school and 1.37 for secondary school. The GAR-based GPI is 0.98 for primary school and 1.25 for secondary school.

2.6.3 Participation Rate in Organized Learning among Children Age 5

Participation rate in organized learning: adjusted net attendance ratio (NAR)

The percentage of children 1 year below the official primary school entry age (at the beginning of the school year) who are attending either an early childhood education programme or primary school. The ratio is called “adjusted” because it includes children attending primary school.

Sample: Children aged 5 years at the beginning of the school year

Early childhood education prepares children for primary school and supports their physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs, building a broad and solid foundation for their well-being. Among children aged 5 years (1 year below the official primary school entry age), 92% participate in organized learning, including 55% who are enrolled in an early childhood education programme and 37% who attend primary school (**Table 2.13**). However, 8% do not attend either an early childhood education programme or primary education.

2.7 Health Insurance Coverage

Health insurance coverage

Percentage of the de jure household population with health insurance coverage.

Sample: De jure household population

Health insurance improves access to health care, thus promoting good health. Reasonable access to health care encourages individuals to seek essential health services more regularly than they otherwise would, thereby preventing potentially serious illnesses. Additionally, health insurance protects individuals from financial hardship resulting from large or unexpected medical expenses.

The 2025 RDHS collected information about specific types of insurance coverage and the percentage of the household population with any health insurance. Specifically, 86% of household members are covered by health insurance. Among those covered, a large majority (94%) are covered by Mutuelle/community-based health insurance (**Table 2.14**).

2.8 Animal Bites

According to the 2025 RDHS, less than 1% of the de facto household population was bitten by a snake or a dog during the years 2020–2024. Slightly more than one-third (36%) of these incidents occurred in 2024 (**Table 2.15**). Most individuals bitten by a dog or snake sought treatment from traditional healers (53%) or from formal health care facilities (39%). The most common health consequence of snake or dog bites was recurrent swelling (20%) (**Table 2.16**).

2.9 Neglected Tropical Diseases

The 2025 RDHS asked questions on recent infections of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). These include scabies, podoconiosis, lymphatic filariasis, leprosy, onchocerciasis, mycetoma, and yaws. Only 2% of the household population reported any of these NTDs in the past 12 months. The most common NTD reported was scabies (1%) (**Table 2.17**).



List of Tables

For more information on household population and housing characteristics, see the following tables:

- **Table 2.1** Household characteristics: Housing
- **Table 2.2** Household characteristics: Cooking
- **Table 2.3** Household characteristics: Lighting
- **Table 2.4** Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies
- **Table 2.5** Household possessions
- **Table 2.6** Wealth quintiles
- **Table 2.7** Household population by age, sex, and residence
- **Table 2.8** Household composition
- **Table 2.9** Children's living arrangements and orphanhood
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- **Table 2.11.1** Educational attainment of the female household population
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- **Table 2.16** Care for people bitten by a dog or a snake and health consequences of the bite
- **Table 2.17** Neglected tropical diseases



Table 2.1 Household characteristics: Housing

Percentage distribution of households and de jure population by housing characteristics and percentage distribution by frequency of smoking in the home, according to residence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Characteristic	Households			Population		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Electricity¹						
Yes	90.6	67.1	74.1	90.9	69.8	75.8
Yes, based on direct question	87.2	41.8	55.4	87.1	42.8	55.4
Yes, based on lighting source	3.4	25.3	18.7	3.8	27.0	20.4
No	9.4	32.9	25.9	9.1	30.2	24.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Flooring material						
Earth, sand	22.3	66.5	53.2	23.0	65.7	53.6
Dung	0.9	4.6	3.5	1.0	4.4	3.4
Wood/planks	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Palm/bamboo/traditional mat	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bricks without cement	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.4	1.0	0.8
Stones without cement	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Parquet or polished wood	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ceramic tiles	16.0	0.4	5.1	17.3	0.4	5.2
Cement	59.9	27.3	37.0	57.9	28.2	36.7
Carpet	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Rooms used for sleeping						
One	31.3	17.4	21.6	18.8	10.6	12.9
Two	31.6	40.4	37.8	32.2	38.1	36.4
Three or more	37.0	42.2	40.6	49.0	51.4	50.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Frequency of smoking in the home						
Daily	5.8	9.3	8.3	6.1	8.9	8.1
Weekly	1.4	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.9	1.8
Monthly	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3
Less than once a month	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.7
Never	92.0	87.6	88.9	91.7	88.0	89.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households/population	4,315	10,112	14,427	15,997	40,240	56,237

¹ The 2025 RDHS did not clearly identify households with standalone solar systems. The electricity question mainly reflected grid electricity ("Yes, based on direct question"). Households reporting no electricity but using electricity or a solar lantern for lighting are shown as "Yes, based on lighting source," which may include households with standalone solar systems as well as some households with only a solar lantern. Households with no electricity reported neither electricity nor a solar lantern for lighting.

Table 2.2 Household characteristics: Cooking

Percentage distribution of households and de jure population by place for cooking, cooking technology, and cooking fuel, according to residence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Characteristic	Households			Population		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Place for cooking						
In the house	28.0	14.2	18.3	22.5	12.2	15.2
Separate room/kitchen	12.1	9.3	10.2	11.2	8.3	9.1
No separate room/kitchen	15.8	4.8	8.1	11.3	3.9	6.0
In a separate building	42.7	69.5	61.5	50.4	73.0	66.6
Outdoors	27.9	15.7	19.4	26.5	14.5	17.9
No food cooked in household	1.4	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Main cooking technology						
Clean fuels and technologies	18.6	1.3	6.5	14.1	1.0	4.7
Electric stove	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Solar cooker	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
LPG/natural gas stove	18.1	0.8	6.0	13.5	0.5	4.2
Biogas stove	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other fuels and technologies	80.0	98.1	92.6	85.4	98.7	94.9
Liquid fuel stove not using alcohol/ethanol	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manufactured solid fuel stove	1.0	0.4	0.6	1.1	0.4	0.6
With a chimney	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Without a chimney	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.4
Traditional solid fuel stove	60.0	44.5	49.2	62.7	44.8	49.9
With a chimney	17.3	15.0	15.7	19.0	15.4	16.4
Without a chimney	42.7	29.5	33.5	43.7	29.5	33.5
Three-stone stove/open fire	18.8	53.1	42.8	21.5	53.5	44.4
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
No food cooked in household	1.4	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cooking fuel						
Clean fuels and technologies ¹	18.6	1.3	6.5	14.1	1.0	4.7
Solid fuels for cooking	79.9	98.0	92.6	85.3	98.7	94.9
Coal/lignite	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Charcoal	51.1	8.2	21.0	52.1	7.0	19.8
Wood	16.0	46.1	37.1	18.9	47.4	39.3
Straw/shrubs/grass	12.5	42.4	33.4	14.1	42.9	34.7
Agricultural crop	0.2	0.9	0.7	0.2	1.0	0.7
Animal dung/waste	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.3
Other fuels	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gasoline/diesel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kerosene/paraffin	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
No food cooked in household	1.4	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households/population	4,315	10,112	14,427	15,997	40,240	56,237

LPG = Liquefied petroleum gas

¹ Includes stoves/cookers using electricity, LPG/natural gas/biogas, solar, and alcohol/ethanol

Table 2.3 Household characteristics: Lighting

Percentage distribution of households and de jure population by main lighting fuel or technology, according to residence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Main lighting fuel or technology	Households			Population		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Clean fuels and technologies	98.3	97.4	97.7	98.4	97.9	98.0
Electricity or solar lantern/ standalone solar system	90.2	66.3	73.5	90.4	69.1	75.2
On-grid electricity	86.7	39.8	53.9	86.6	41.0	53.9
Solar lantern/standalone solar system	3.4	26.5	19.6	3.9	28.2	21.2
Rechargeable flashlight/ torch/lantern	3.1	9.6	7.7	3.0	8.8	7.1
Battery-powered flashlight/ torch/lantern	5.0	21.5	16.6	5.0	19.9	15.7
Biogas lamp	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kerosene/paraffin lamp	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Charcoal	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Wood	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2
Straw/shrubs/grass	0.1	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.4
Agricultural crop	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Animal dung/waste	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Oil lamp	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Candle	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.5
Other fuel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
No lighting in household	0.2	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households/population	4,315	10,112	14,427	15,997	40,240	56,237

Table 2.4 Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies

Percentage of de jure population relying on clean fuels and technologies for cooking, percentage relying on solid fuels for cooking, percentage relying on clean fuels and technologies for lighting, and percentage relying on clean fuels and technologies for cooking, space heating, and lighting, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for cooking ¹	Primary reliance on solid fuels for cooking ²	Number of persons in households that reported cooking	Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for lighting ³	Number of persons in households that reported use of lighting	Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for cooking, space heating, and lighting ⁴	Number of persons
Residence							
Urban	14.2	85.8	15,909	98.6	15,969	14.6	15,997
Rural	1.0	99.0	40,141	98.4	40,002	1.2	40,240
Province							
City of Kigali	19.6	80.3	7,617	98.8	7,658	20.2	7,678
Southern Province	2.5	97.5	12,758	97.9	12,711	2.8	12,802
Western Province	2.0	98.0	11,832	98.4	11,795	2.0	11,846
Northern Province	2.3	97.7	8,326	98.8	8,328	2.5	8,344
Eastern Province	2.7	97.2	15,518	98.7	15,479	3.0	15,568
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	0.2	99.8	11,197	95.0	11,012	0.6	11,246
Second	0.6	99.3	11,220	98.4	11,239	0.7	11,247
Middle	0.6	99.4	11,220	99.4	11,227	0.8	11,251
Fourth	2.0	97.9	11,191	99.7	11,242	2.5	11,242
Highest	20.4	79.6	11,222	99.9	11,250	20.5	11,250
Total	4.7	95.2	56,050	98.5	55,971	5.0	56,237

¹ Includes stoves/cookers using electricity, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)/natural gas/biogas, solar, and alcohol/ethanol

² Includes coal/lignite, charcoal, wood, straw/shrubs/grass, agricultural crops, animal dung/waste, processed biomass (pellets) or woodchips, garbage/plastic, and sawdust

³ Includes electricity, solar lantern, rechargeable flashlight/torch/lantern, battery-powered flashlight/torch/lantern, and biogas lamp

⁴ In order to calculate SDG indicator 7.1.2, persons living in households that report no cooking, no space heating, or no lighting are included in the numerator.

Table 2.5 Household possessions

Percentage of households possessing various household assets, means of transportation, agricultural land, and livestock/farm animals, by residence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Possession	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Household effects			
Radio	54.3	39.0	43.6
Television	32.7	7.2	14.8
Refrigerator	10.5	0.7	3.6
Computer	13.4	1.5	5.0
Mattress	90.9	70.4	76.6
Bench or at least 3 chairs	49.8	81.9	72.3
Bed	56.9	60.7	59.6
Chair	52.2	45.0	47.1
Table	70.8	62.3	64.8
Sofa	40.0	9.9	18.9
Traditional improved stove	23.7	50.7	42.6
Cooker stove	9.9	1.1	3.7
Cupboard	27.9	6.3	12.8
Dining table	26.3	15.2	18.5
Iron machine	34.2	7.5	15.5
Laundry machine	1.3	0.3	0.6
Satellite dish	21.0	3.3	8.6
Dishwashing machine	0.9	0.4	0.6
Security camera	1.7	0.2	0.7
Watch	32.1	10.3	16.8
Photo camera	1.3	0.3	0.6
Any type of mobile phone	93.3	79.6	83.7
Ordinary mobile phone	72.2	73.5	73.1
Smartphone	64.4	26.6	37.9
Means of transportation			
Bicycle	13.2	16.8	15.7
Animal-drawn cart	0.7	0.3	0.4
Motorcycle/scooter	5.7	2.7	3.6
Car/truck	6.2	0.4	2.1
Boat with a motor	0.5	0.3	0.4
Boat without a motor	0.6	0.4	0.5
Ownership of agricultural land	20.3	60.1	48.2
Ownership of farm animals ¹	21.3	64.4	51.5
Number of households	4,315	10,112	14,427

¹ Traditional milk cows, modern milk cows, bulls, horses, donkeys, mules, goats, sheep, chickens or other poultry, pigs, or rabbits

Table 2.6 Wealth quintiles

Percentage distribution of the de jure population by wealth quintiles, and the Gini coefficient, according to residence and province, Rwanda DHS 2025

Residence/ province	Wealth quintile					Total	Number of persons	Gini coefficient ¹
	Lowest	Second	Middle	Fourth	Highest			
Residence								
Urban	6.4	6.4	9.8	25.5	51.9	100.0	15,997	0.19
Rural	25.4	25.4	24.1	17.8	7.3	100.0	40,240	0.23
Province								
City of Kigali	4.4	5.8	9.2	26.0	54.6	100.0	7,678	0.20
Southern Province	27.9	22.9	18.3	16.9	14.0	100.0	12,802	0.28
Western Province	19.8	24.2	22.1	19.4	14.4	100.0	11,846	0.27
Northern Province	14.9	22.6	28.3	22.0	12.2	100.0	8,344	0.23
Eastern Province	24.0	20.0	20.7	19.0	16.3	100.0	15,568	0.28
Total	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	100.0	56,237	0.27

¹ The Gini coefficient indicates the level of concentration of wealth, with 0 representing an equal wealth distribution and 1 representing a totally unequal distribution.

Table 2.7 Household population by age, sex, and residence

Percentage distribution of the de facto household population by age groups, according to sex and residence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<5	14.3	12.9	13.5	14.0	12.3	13.1	14.1	12.5	13.2
5–9	14.5	11.2	12.8	14.7	13.0	13.8	14.6	12.5	13.5
10–14	10.3	10.2	10.2	14.0	12.3	13.1	13.0	11.7	12.3
15–19	8.9	10.4	9.7	11.5	9.8	10.6	10.7	10.0	10.3
20–24	9.2	10.9	10.1	7.7	7.7	7.7	8.1	8.6	8.4
25–29	8.5	9.1	8.8	5.3	6.2	5.8	6.3	7.0	6.6
30–34	8.0	8.2	8.1	5.4	5.8	5.6	6.2	6.5	6.3
35–39	7.4	7.5	7.4	5.4	6.1	5.8	5.9	6.5	6.3
40–44	6.5	5.1	5.8	5.7	6.3	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.9
45–49	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.9	4.4	3.9	4.6	4.3
50–54	2.6	2.8	2.7	3.1	3.6	3.4	2.9	3.4	3.2
55–59	1.8	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.2	2.6	2.4
60–64	1.5	1.7	1.6	2.4	2.9	2.7	2.1	2.6	2.4
65–69	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.8	2.4	2.2	1.7	2.1	1.9
70–74	0.6	1.0	0.8	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.5	1.3
75–79	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.7
80 +	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.7	1.3	1.0	0.6	1.1	0.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Dependency age groups									
0–14	39.0	34.3	36.6	42.7	37.6	40.0	41.7	36.7	39.0
15–64	58.3	62.0	60.2	52.7	56.0	54.5	54.3	57.7	56.1
65+	2.7	3.6	3.2	4.5	6.3	5.5	4.0	5.5	4.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Child and adult populations									
0–17	43.9	40.1	41.9	50.0	43.7	46.7	48.3	42.7	45.3
18+	56.1	59.9	58.1	50.0	56.2	53.3	51.7	57.3	54.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Adolescents 10–19	19.2	20.6	19.9	25.5	22.2	23.7	23.7	21.7	22.6
Number of persons	7,506	8,331	15,837	18,621	20,955	39,576	26,127	29,286	55,413

Note: Information on age is missing for 8 household members.

Table 2.8 Household composition

Percentage distribution of households by sex of head of household and by household size, mean size of households, and percentage of households with orphans and children under age 18 not living with a biological parent, according to residence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Characteristic	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
Household headship			
Male	70.4	69.6	69.8
Female	29.6	30.4	30.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of usual members			
0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1	15.9	9.2	11.2
2	15.2	13.3	13.9
3	18.1	20.7	19.9
4	18.1	20.1	19.5
5	14.2	16.5	15.8
6	9.1	10.6	10.1
7	5.2	5.6	5.5
8	2.4	2.5	2.4
9+	1.7	1.6	1.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean size of households	3.7	4.0	3.9
Percentage of households with children under age 18 who are orphans or not living with a biological parent			
Double orphans	0.3	0.3	0.3
Single orphans ¹	4.8	6.6	6.0
Children not living with a biological parent ²	14.2	16.4	15.7
Orphans and/or children not living with a biological parent	16.6	19.9	18.9
Number of households	4,315	10,112	14,427

Note: Table is based on de jure household members, i.e., usual residents.

¹ Includes children with one dead parent and an unknown survival status of the other parent

² Children not living with a biological parent are those under age 18 living in households with neither their mother nor their father present.

Table 2.9 Children's living arrangements and orphanhood

Percentage distribution of de jure children under age 18 by living arrangements and survival status of parents, percentage of children not living with a biological parent, and percentage of children with one or both parents dead, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Living with both parents	Living with mother but not with father		Living with father but not with mother		Not living with either parent					Total	Percentage not living with a biological parent	Percentage with one or both parents dead ¹	Number of children
		Father alive	Father dead	Mother alive	Mother dead	Both alive	Only mother alive	Only father alive	Both dead	Missing information on father/ mother				
Age														
0–4	71.0	21.4	0.9	0.7	0.1	4.8	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.8	100.0	5.1	1.3	7,323
<2	73.4	24.6	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.6	100.0	0.8	0.6	2,869
2–4	69.4	19.3	1.2	1.0	0.2	7.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	1.0	100.0	7.9	1.8	4,453
5–9	65.1	17.9	2.6	2.8	0.3	8.8	0.5	0.4	0.1	1.5	100.0	9.8	4.0	7,473
10–14	58.8	16.4	4.5	3.4	0.7	11.5	1.4	0.8	0.2	2.4	100.0	13.9	7.8	6,876
15–17	53.5	15.2	6.9	2.3	1.1	14.9	2.3	1.3	0.8	1.8	100.0	19.2	12.4	3,555
Sex														
Male	63.7	18.4	3.3	2.4	0.5	8.5	0.8	0.5	0.3	1.5	100.0	10.1	5.6	12,701
Female	63.2	17.8	3.1	2.2	0.4	9.9	0.9	0.6	0.1	1.6	100.0	11.6	5.3	12,526
Residence														
Urban	62.0	19.8	2.9	2.7	0.4	9.3	1.0	0.4	0.2	1.2	100.0	11.0	5.0	6,651
Rural	64.0	17.5	3.4	2.1	0.5	9.2	0.8	0.6	0.2	1.7	100.0	10.9	5.6	18,576
Province														
City of Kigali	63.6	20.3	2.3	3.3	0.4	7.5	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.9	100.0	9.3	4.4	2,972
Southern Province	60.7	18.3	3.3	2.4	0.5	10.5	1.0	0.6	0.4	2.4	100.0	12.4	6.0	5,755
Western Province	67.1	16.5	3.9	1.6	0.4	7.7	0.6	0.7	0.1	1.4	100.0	9.0	5.7	5,626
Northern Province	70.3	14.6	2.1	1.5	0.3	8.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	1.5	100.0	9.6	3.6	3,585
Eastern Province	59.3	20.0	3.6	2.6	0.6	10.5	1.1	0.6	0.1	1.5	100.0	12.4	6.1	7,289
Wealth quintile														
Lowest	54.1	26.2	5.7	2.8	0.6	6.7	0.8	0.6	0.2	2.4	100.0	8.3	8.0	5,416
Second	63.0	18.7	3.7	2.1	0.3	8.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	1.9	100.0	10.2	5.4	5,343
Middle	66.0	16.4	2.7	2.3	0.4	9.3	0.7	0.5	0.2	1.4	100.0	10.7	4.7	5,164
Fourth	68.2	14.6	2.1	1.9	0.3	10.0	1.0	0.7	0.1	1.1	100.0	11.9	4.3	4,916
Highest	67.2	13.4	1.4	2.4	0.7	11.7	1.3	0.7	0.3	1.0	100.0	14.0	4.4	4,387
Total <15	65.1	18.6	2.6	2.3	0.4	8.3	0.7	0.5	0.1	1.6	100.0	9.5	4.3	21,672
Total <18	63.4	18.1	3.2	2.3	0.5	9.2	0.9	0.6	0.2	1.6	100.0	10.9	5.4	25,227

Note: Table is based on de jure members, i.e., usual residents.

¹ Includes children with father dead, mother dead, both dead, and one parent dead but missing information on survival status of the other parent

Table 2.10 Birth registration of children under age 5

Percentage of de jure children under age 5 whose births are registered with the civil authorities, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of children whose births are registered and who:		Total percentage of children whose births are registered	Number of children
	Had a birth certificate	Did not have a birth certificate		
Age				
<1	48.2	47.5	95.7	1,459
1–4	45.0	50.0	95.0	5,864
Sex				
Male	46.1	49.4	95.5	3,677
Female	45.2	49.6	94.8	3,645
Residence				
Urban	47.0	48.8	95.8	2,141
Rural	45.1	49.8	94.8	5,182
Province				
City of Kigali	49.0	47.6	96.5	993
Southern Province	38.7	54.9	93.6	1,638
Western Province	49.7	46.1	95.9	1,604
Northern Province	44.9	51.4	96.3	1,002
Eastern Province	46.7	47.8	94.5	2,087
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	39.2	52.3	91.4	1,654
Second	42.1	52.8	95.0	1,481
Middle	47.3	48.6	95.9	1,475
Fourth	43.6	52.5	96.1	1,377
Highest	57.8	40.2	97.9	1,336
Total	45.6	49.5	95.1	7,323

Table 2.11.1 Educational attainment of the female household population

Percentage distribution of the de facto female household population aged 6 years and above by highest level of schooling attended or completed and median years completed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	No education	Some primary	Completed primary ¹	Some secondary	Completed secondary ²	More than secondary	Don't know	Total	Number	Median years completed
Age										
6–9	18.1	81.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	2,990	0.5
10–14	1.1	85.3	4.9	8.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	3,430	3.3
15–19	1.1	32.8	13.8	49.0	3.0	0.4	0.0	100.0	2,933	5.9
20–24	1.4	26.7	18.8	33.1	14.8	5.3	0.1	100.0	2,516	6.2
25–29	3.0	30.4	18.6	25.1	15.3	7.6	0.0	100.0	2,049	5.8
30–34	4.6	38.4	15.7	20.5	14.0	6.7	0.0	100.0	1,893	5.4
35–39	10.6	49.7	15.7	7.9	9.6	6.3	0.2	100.0	1,911	4.2
40–44	14.8	55.3	18.6	3.9	2.7	4.6	0.0	100.0	1,744	3.3
45–49	17.5	39.1	30.9	5.9	2.4	4.0	0.2	100.0	1,351	4.4
50–54	24.0	34.4	32.3	5.0	2.1	2.3	0.0	100.0	992	4.0
55–59	29.9	31.4	31.1	4.4	1.6	1.6	0.0	100.0	762	3.5
60–64	41.3	35.9	16.8	3.1	1.9	0.6	0.2	100.0	758	1.3
65+	59.0	28.2	10.4	1.4	0.6	0.2	0.1	100.0	1,625	0.0
Residence										
Urban	7.4	40.2	13.7	19.8	10.9	8.0	0.1	100.0	7,094	5.2
Rural	15.2	51.8	14.8	13.9	3.3	0.9	0.0	100.0	17,867	3.4
Province										
City of Kigali	5.4	37.5	15.2	20.1	12.5	9.1	0.1	100.0	3,366	5.4
Southern Province	14.1	49.4	15.4	14.3	4.3	2.5	0.0	100.0	5,684	3.8
Western Province	14.8	51.2	13.5	14.1	4.6	1.7	0.0	100.0	5,410	3.5
Northern Province	14.6	47.8	14.6	16.7	4.4	1.9	0.0	100.0	3,726	3.9
Eastern Province	13.4	51.5	14.2	15.1	4.1	1.7	0.1	100.0	6,776	3.6
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	22.8	58.9	10.8	7.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	4,947	2.2
Second	16.6	55.2	14.7	12.1	1.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	5,092	3.1
Middle	12.1	52.3	16.3	16.2	2.7	0.3	0.0	100.0	4,942	3.8
Fourth	8.8	44.2	17.5	20.6	7.3	1.7	0.0	100.0	4,952	4.7
Highest	4.5	32.0	13.3	22.2	15.3	12.5	0.1	100.0	5,027	6.0
Total	13.0	48.5	14.5	15.6	5.4	2.9	0.1	100.0	24,961	3.9

Note: Table includes 7 individuals with information missing on age.

¹ Completed 6th grade (for 6-grade system) and 8th grade (for 8-grade system) at the primary level or were in vocational school

² Completed 6th grade at the secondary level

Table 2.11.2 Educational attainment of the male household population

Percentage distribution of the de facto male household population aged 6 years and above by highest level of schooling attended or completed and median years completed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	No education	Some primary	Completed primary ¹	Some secondary	Completed secondary ²	More than secondary	Don't know	Total	Number	Median years completed
Age										
6–9	21.6	78.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	3,116	0.4
10–14	1.7	88.8	3.7	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	3,385	2.8
15–19	2.2	47.3	11.9	36.4	1.9	0.2	0.1	100.0	2,798	5.0
20–24	2.5	35.5	17.9	26.6	13.0	4.4	0.1	100.0	2,115	5.6
25–29	2.7	35.4	17.3	20.2	15.1	9.1	0.1	100.0	1,634	5.7
30–34	4.7	34.8	17.2	17.4	16.1	9.4	0.3	100.0	1,615	5.6
35–39	9.0	45.7	17.0	8.9	10.5	8.8	0.1	100.0	1,553	4.6
40–44	11.4	47.4	23.7	5.7	5.3	6.2	0.3	100.0	1,545	4.3
45–49	16.0	37.9	30.8	5.0	3.9	6.2	0.2	100.0	1,020	4.6
50–54	13.5	32.6	36.6	8.4	3.1	4.9	0.9	100.0	770	5.1
55–59	20.1	26.3	38.5	8.0	2.3	4.6	0.0	100.0	586	5.1
60–64	25.2	38.2	27.7	4.6	1.9	2.0	0.4	100.0	560	3.0
65+	31.7	37.9	23.0	3.1	2.4	1.6	0.2	100.0	1,043	2.7
Residence										
Urban	5.9	41.4	14.8	16.9	11.1	9.7	0.3	100.0	6,236	5.2
Rural	11.4	57.5	15.0	11.5	3.3	1.2	0.1	100.0	15,504	3.2
Province										
City of Kigali	4.6	36.6	17.3	17.5	12.5	11.0	0.4	100.0	3,136	5.5
Southern Province	12.0	54.4	14.7	11.9	4.1	2.7	0.1	100.0	4,954	3.4
Western Province	10.6	56.4	14.4	11.3	4.8	2.3	0.2	100.0	4,422	3.4
Northern Province	9.3	55.1	14.8	13.2	4.8	2.6	0.2	100.0	3,237	3.7
Eastern Province	10.4	56.5	14.3	12.9	3.9	2.0	0.1	100.0	5,990	3.4
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	18.0	65.4	10.0	5.6	0.8	0.1	0.2	100.0	4,139	2.0
Second	12.7	62.8	13.6	9.4	1.3	0.1	0.1	100.0	4,206	2.8
Middle	9.1	57.6	17.0	12.2	3.4	0.5	0.1	100.0	4,396	3.5
Fourth	6.4	47.9	18.8	17.9	6.9	2.0	0.2	100.0	4,482	4.6
Highest	3.8	32.7	14.9	19.3	14.3	14.7	0.2	100.0	4,517	5.9
Total	9.8	52.9	14.9	13.1	5.5	3.6	0.1	100.0	21,739	3.7

Note: Table includes 1 individual with information missing on age.

¹ Completed 6th grade (for 6-grade system) and 8th grade (for 8-grade system) at the primary level or were in vocational school

² Completed 6th grade at the secondary level

Table 2.12 School attendance ratios

Net attendance ratios (NAR) and gross attendance ratios (GAR) for the de facto household population by sex and level of schooling, and the gender parity index (GPI), according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Net attendance ratio ¹				Gross attendance ratio ²			
	Male	Female	Total	Gender parity index ³	Male	Female	Total	Gender parity index ³
PRIMARY SCHOOL								
Residence								
Urban	94.1	94.6	94.4	1.01	130.2	130.5	130.3	1.00
Rural	91.7	93.6	92.7	1.02	141.2	136.7	138.9	0.97
Province								
City of Kigali	94.4	95.3	94.8	1.01	129.1	127.9	128.5	0.99
Southern Province	91.0	94.4	92.7	1.04	142.9	130.8	136.7	0.92
Western Province	93.4	95.2	94.3	1.02	144.9	144.9	144.9	1.00
Northern Province	95.0	96.0	95.5	1.01	137.2	135.1	136.2	0.98
Eastern Province	90.3	90.6	90.5	1.00	133.6	133.6	133.6	1.00
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	83.9	87.8	85.8	1.05	132.7	131.6	132.2	0.99
Second	90.9	94.3	92.6	1.04	140.0	138.3	139.1	0.99
Middle	95.5	96.4	95.9	1.01	145.6	141.4	143.5	0.97
Fourth	95.6	95.9	95.7	1.00	142.5	137.3	139.9	0.96
Highest	96.9	95.5	96.2	0.99	128.8	125.5	127.2	0.97
Total	92.4	93.9	93.1	1.02	138.1	135.1	136.6	0.98
SECONDARY SCHOOL								
Residence								
Urban	33.7	38.2	36.2	1.13	53.9	54.5	54.2	1.01
Rural	22.7	33.0	27.7	1.45	34.7	46.4	40.4	1.34
Province								
City of Kigali	32.5	34.7	33.7	1.07	54.3	50.1	52.0	0.92
Southern Province	22.4	37.4	29.5	1.67	35.8	51.9	43.4	1.45
Western Province	23.7	31.3	27.6	1.32	34.8	45.8	40.4	1.31
Northern Province	29.1	39.4	34.1	1.36	43.3	55.3	49.2	1.28
Eastern Province	24.1	32.0	28.2	1.33	37.5	44.5	41.1	1.19
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	10.1	14.5	12.2	1.43	14.8	19.7	17.1	1.33
Second	17.6	26.6	22.1	1.51	25.7	36.5	31.1	1.42
Middle	23.6	37.4	30.4	1.58	37.3	51.9	44.5	1.39
Fourth	32.9	46.0	39.5	1.40	50.9	64.7	57.8	1.27
Highest	47.6	46.9	47.2	0.99	76.1	69.6	72.5	0.91
Total	25.0	34.3	29.7	1.37	38.8	48.5	43.7	1.25

¹ The NAR for primary school is the percentage of the primary school-age (6–11 years) population that is attending primary school. The NAR for secondary school is the percentage of the secondary school-age (12–17 years) population that is attending secondary school. By definition, the NAR cannot exceed 100.0.

² The GAR for primary school is the total number of primary school students, expressed as a percentage of the official primary school-age population. The GAR for secondary school is the total number of secondary school students, expressed as a percentage of the official secondary school-age population. If there are significant numbers of overage and underage students at a given level of schooling, the GAR can exceed 100.0.

³ The gender parity index for primary school is the ratio of the primary school NAR (GAR) for females to the NAR (GAR) for males. The gender parity index for secondary school is the ratio of the secondary school NAR (GAR) for females to the NAR (GAR) for males.

Table 2.13 Participation rate in organized learning

Percentage distribution of children 1 year younger than the official primary school entry age at the beginning of the school year by attendance at an early childhood education programme or primary school, and the adjusted net attendance ratio (NAR), according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage distribution of children attending				Adjusted NAR ¹	Number of children aged 5 years at beginning of the school year
	An early childhood education programme	Primary school	Neither an early childhood education programme nor primary school	Total		
Sex						
Male	58.7	33.2	8.1	100.0	91.9	762
Female	51.7	40.3	8.1	100.0	91.9	687
Residence						
Urban	47.2	42.2	10.7	100.0	89.3	385
Rural	58.4	34.5	7.1	100.0	92.9	1,063
Province						
City of Kigali	50.1	34.9	15.0	100.0	85.0	175
Southern Province	63.4	29.0	7.5	100.0	92.5	346
Western Province	53.3	40.5	6.2	100.0	93.8	290
Northern Province	48.8	45.9	5.3	100.0	94.7	222
Eastern Province	55.9	35.7	8.4	100.0	91.6	414
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	53.1	30.2	16.7	100.0	83.3	312
Second	68.0	25.3	6.7	100.0	93.3	302
Middle	53.5	40.1	6.3	100.0	93.7	301
Fourth	52.2	41.6	6.2	100.0	93.8	289
Highest	48.8	48.1	3.1	100.0	96.9	244
Total	55.4	36.5	8.1	100.0	91.9	1,448

¹ The adjusted net attendance ratio (NAR) to organized learning is the percentage of children of 1 year younger than the official primary school entry age (at the beginning of the school year) who are attending early childhood education or primary school.



Table 2.14 Health insurance coverage

Percentage of the de jure household population with any health insurance coverage, and among those with health insurance, percentage distribution by type of health insurance, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage with any health insurance coverage	Number of persons	Type of health insurance						Total	Number of persons with health insurance
			Mutuelle/ community health insurance	RSSB/ RAMA	MMI	Private insurance company	Employer	Don't know		
Age										
0–9	82.3	14,796	92.3	5.0	1.9	0.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	12,179
10–19	85.7	12,758	95.7	2.5	1.0	0.7	0.0	0.1	100.0	10,931
20–29	88.1	8,519	94.9	3.0	0.9	1.0	0.0	0.1	100.0	7,503
30–39	87.7	7,135	90.1	6.7	1.8	1.3	0.1	0.0	100.0	6,259
40–49	86.8	5,824	92.1	5.3	1.4	1.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	5,057
50–59	88.7	3,166	94.7	3.6	0.9	0.8	0.1	0.0	100.0	2,809
60–69	89.5	2,385	96.4	2.5	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	100.0	2,135
70–79	91.3	1,147	98.5	1.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,047
80+	90.0	497	99.3	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	447
Sex										
Male	85.5	26,847	93.3	4.4	1.2	1.0	0.1	0.1	100.0	22,956
Female	86.5	29,390	94.0	3.8	1.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	25,420
Residence										
Urban	85.8	15,997	86.5	7.7	3.0	2.5	0.1	0.1	100.0	13,719
Rural	86.1	40,240	96.5	2.6	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	100.0	34,657
Province										
City of Kigali	83.7	7,678	89.8	4.8	1.9	3.3	0.2	0.1	100.0	6,428
Southern Province	85.2	12,802	93.9	4.7	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	10,912
Western Province	85.4	11,846	94.7	4.1	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.1	100.0	10,118
Northern Province	93.5	8,344	94.6	3.9	1.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	7,801
Eastern Province	84.2	15,568	94.2	3.4	2.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	13,116
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	71.2	11,246	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	8,010
Second	85.2	11,247	99.6	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	100.0	9,578
Middle	89.8	11,251	98.9	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	10,105
Fourth	90.2	11,242	94.7	3.5	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	100.0	10,137
Highest	93.7	11,250	77.6	14.2	4.5	3.5	0.1	0.0	100.0	10,545
Total	86.0	56,237	93.7	4.1	1.3	0.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	48,375

Note: Table includes 10 individuals with information missing on age.

Table 2.15 Snake or dog bites

Percentage of the de facto household population that was bitten by a snake or a dog; and among those bitten, timing of the bite, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage bitten by a dog	Percentage bitten by a snake	Percentage bitten by a dog or a snake	Number	Timing of the last bite		Number of people bitten by a snake or a dog
					2020–23	2024	
Age							
0–14	0.2	0.1	0.3	21,633	59.3	40.7	70
15–24	0.3	0.4	0.7	10,362	74.0	26.0	68
25–49	0.3	0.5	0.8	16,314	62.2	37.8	135
50+	0.3	0.7	0.9	7,103	64.2	35.8	65
Sex							
Male	0.3	0.3	0.7	26,127	64.3	35.7	178
Female	0.2	0.3	0.5	29,286	64.5	35.5	160
Residence							
Urban	0.3	0.2	0.5	15,837	64.1	35.9	74
Rural	0.3	0.4	0.7	39,576	64.5	35.5	264
Province							
City of Kigali	0.3	0.1	0.3	7,651	*	*	27
Southern Province	0.3	0.4	0.7	12,602	59.1	40.9	86
Western Province	0.1	0.2	0.3	11,716	(65.0)	(35.0)	32
Northern Province	0.3	0.1	0.4	8,178	(83.5)	(16.5)	31
Eastern Province	0.4	0.7	1.1	15,266	64.9	35.1	162
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	0.3	0.5	0.8	11,038	60.7	39.3	93
Second	0.2	0.4	0.6	11,082	66.1	33.9	68
Middle	0.3	0.5	0.8	11,093	73.9	26.1	92
Fourth	0.3	0.2	0.4	11,080	(64.8)	(35.2)	50
Highest	0.2	0.1	0.3	11,120	(45.3)	(54.7)	35
Total	0.3	0.3	0.6	55,413	64.4	35.6	338

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 2.16 Care for people bitten by a dog or a snake and health consequences of the bite

Among the de facto household population that was bitten by a snake or a dog, percentage distribution by type of place where the person was treated for the last bite, and percentage distribution by health consequences of the bite, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Place of treatment				Health consequences											Number of people bitten by a dog or snake
	Formal health facility	Traditional healer	Other	None	Tissue damage or scarring	Recurrent swelling	Dizziness	Sleeping problems	Blurred vision	Breathing problems	Amputation	Paralysis	Mental health issues	No consequence	Other	
Age																
0–14	54.8	39.8	2.9	4.1	5.6	16.7	4.1	3.7	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	68.5	3.8	70
15–24	48.0	50.5	0.0	5.5	6.5	22.0	10.2	3.3	1.7	3.3	0.0	0.0	1.7	62.0	0.0	68
25–49	32.2	54.5	3.3	11.1	0.7	18.1	4.0	2.5	1.8	0.3	0.2	1.7	0.0	63.8	1.7	135
50+	26.7	63.8	5.5	7.0	0.5	24.4	7.1	3.4	8.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.8	0.0	65
Sex																
Male	33.0	53.0	3.4	11.7	2.6	18.6	6.2	3.2	1.9	1.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	62.2	1.4	178
Female	45.7	51.8	2.5	3.4	3.1	21.2	5.5	3.0	3.6	0.9	0.0	1.1	0.7	65.3	1.5	160
Residence																
Urban	51.5	40.7	0.4	9.2	2.4	12.6	5.3	0.7	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.3	72.4	0.0	74
Rural	35.5	55.8	3.7	7.3	3.0	21.9	6.0	3.7	3.5	1.4	0.0	0.9	0.4	61.2	1.9	264
Province																
City of Kigali	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	27
Southern Province	38.5	54.0	1.3	9.4	2.9	22.3	4.9	5.0	2.4	1.3	0.3	0.0	1.3	59.1	0.0	86
Western Province	(29.2)	(67.0)	(6.2)	(0.0)	(6.2)	(17.1)	(10.9)	(8.1)	(3.3)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.8)	(71.3)	(3.1)	32
Northern Province	(86.8)	(12.2)	(1.0)	(0.0)	(4.4)	(13.3)	(3.8)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(78.5)	(0.0)	31
Eastern Province	29.4	60.1	4.1	8.7	2.3	21.4	6.7	2.1	3.8	1.8	0.0	1.1	0.0	61.4	1.6	162
Wealth quintile																
Lowest	23.9	64.6	6.0	8.2	1.4	15.2	3.7	2.6	3.8	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.2	67.7	1.1	93
Second	37.2	59.0	0.0	5.4	6.2	27.1	5.2	3.1	3.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	56.7	2.3	68
Middle	35.4	58.1	1.6	7.7	1.4	20.1	9.4	2.6	2.5	1.6	0.2	1.8	0.3	62.1	2.6	92
Fourth	(55.8)	(34.2)	(6.0)	(6.3)	(5.1)	(20.4)	(2.4)	(4.9)	(2.4)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(1.1)	(0.0)	(66.6)	(0.0)	50
Highest	(68.3)	(18.4)	(0.0)	(13.3)	(0.9)	(16.3)	(8.4)	(3.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(66.2)	(0.0)	35
Total	39.0	52.5	3.0	7.7	2.8	19.8	5.9	3.1	2.7	1.2	0.1	0.7	0.4	63.6	1.5	338

Note: Treatment may have been received from more than one source. Respondents may report more than one health consequence. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 2.17 Neglected tropical diseases

Percentage of the de facto household population that suffered from a neglected tropical disease and place of treatment, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage that suffered a tropical neglected disease									Number of persons	Place of treatment				Number of persons who suffered at least one neglected tropical disease
	Scabies	Podo-coniosis	Lymphatic filariasis	Leprosy	Onchocer-ciasis	Mycetoma	Yaws	At least one of these diseases	None		Formal health facility	Traditional healer	Other	None	
Age															
0–14	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	1.7	98.3	21,633	73.5	11.4	3.7	14.8	370
15–24	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	1.1	98.8	10,362	68.1	9.7	1.0	21.2	116
25–49	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.4	1.4	98.5	16,314	72.4	17.2	2.8	16.6	235
50+	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.5	3.3	96.7	7,103	66.9	15.0	1.5	22.8	232
Sex															
Male	1.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.7	98.3	26,127	69.9	12.6	2.3	17.8	433
Female	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.4	1.8	98.2	29,286	71.9	14.3	2.9	18.1	520
Residence															
Urban	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.0	98.9	15,837	77.6	7.3	3.0	16.5	164
Rural	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.4	2.0	98.0	39,576	69.6	14.8	2.5	18.3	789
Province															
City of Kigali	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.8	99.1	7,651	82.0	6.3	1.3	11.8	63
Southern Province	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.8	98.1	12,602	74.9	8.9	1.3	15.7	231
Western Province	1.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	1.7	98.3	11,716	67.4	11.2	1.6	22.2	202
Northern Province	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	1.5	98.5	8,178	74.9	18.3	0.9	14.1	122
Eastern Province	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.9	2.2	97.7	15,266	66.9	17.6	5.0	19.6	335
Wealth quintile															
Lowest	1.9	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.5	3.0	96.9	11,038	66.0	14.9	2.7	22.1	333
Second	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.4	1.9	98.1	11,082	68.5	18.0	2.9	17.7	210
Middle	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.3	1.5	98.4	11,093	73.9	13.8	3.9	13.7	168
Fourth	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.3	98.7	11,080	74.0	9.7	2.3	18.0	140
Highest	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.9	99.0	11,120	83.7	4.3	0.0	12.2	101
Total	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.7	98.2	55,413	71.0	13.5	2.6	18.0	953

Note: Individuals may have had more than one neglected tropical disease in the past 12 months and may have received care from more than one source.

CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

Key Findings

- **Age:** One in five women (20%) and more than one in five men (23%) are aged 15–19 years; 52% of women and 53% of men are under age 30.
- **Marital status:** 52% of women and 51% of men are currently married or living together with a partner as if married.
- **Education:** Only 7% of women and 6% of men have no formal education.
- **Literacy:** 88% of women and men are literate.
- **Internet usage:** 49% of women and 59% of men in urban areas used the internet in the past 12 months, as compared with 14% of women and 24% of men in rural areas.
- **Health insurance:** 87% of women and 88% of men aged 15–49 years are covered under any health insurance scheme.
- **Migration:** 38% of women and 37% of men moved in the last 5 years. Among them, 41% of women and 36% of men migrated from rural to urban areas, while 9% of women and 11% of men migrated from urban to rural areas.

This chapter presents information on the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the survey respondents, including age, education, literacy, marital status, wealth, health insurance coverage, residence at birth, current place of residence, and recent migration. Furthermore, it presents information on respondents' use of alcohol and tobacco. Collectively, this information is useful for understanding the factors that affect use of reproductive health services, contraceptive use, and other health behaviours.

3.1 Basic Characteristics of Survey Respondents

A total of 14,283 women and 5,891 men aged 15–49 years were interviewed in the 2025 RDHS (Table 3.1). The percentage of respondents surveyed declines as age increases, from 20% among women and 23% among men aged 15–19 years to 9% among women and men aged 45–49 years.

The majority of respondents are Christian (97% of women and 94% of men), including Catholics, Protestants, and Adventists. Muslims account for 2% of women and 3% of men.

Regarding marital status, 39% of women and 47% of men have never been married, while 52% of women and 51% of men are married or living together with a partner as if married (i.e., in union). A higher proportion of women than men are divorced or separated (8% versus 2%) or widowed (2% versus less than 1%).

Slightly less than 7 in 10 of the survey respondents (68%) reside in rural areas.

3.2 Education and Literacy

Literacy

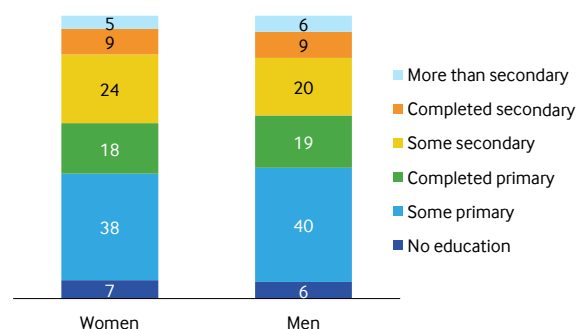
Respondents who had attended education beyond primary school were assumed to be literate. All other respondents were considered literate if they were able to read aloud all or part of a sentence shown to them.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

Among individuals aged 15–49 years, 38% of women and 40% of men have some primary education, 18% of women and 19% of men have completed primary school but have no further education, 24% of women and 20% of men have some secondary education, 9% of both women and men have completed secondary education but have no further education, and 5% of women and 6% of men have more than a secondary education (Table 3.2.1, Table 3.2.2, and Figure 3.1). Seven percent of women and 6% of men have no formal education.

Figure 3.1 Education of survey respondents

Percent distribution of women and men aged 15–49 years by highest level of schooling attended or completed



Trends: The median number of years of schooling among women and men has increased since the 2019–20 RDHS, from 5.2 years to 5.3 years among women and from 5.1 years to 5.2 years among men.

Literacy rates increased between 2019–20 and 2025 (from 85% to 88% among both women and men) (Tables 3.3.1 and Table 3.3.2).

3.3 Mass Media Exposure and Internet Usage

Exposure to mass media

Respondents were asked how often they read a newspaper, listened to the radio, or watched television. Those who reported engaging with a given media at least once a week are considered regularly exposed to that form of media.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

Use of the internet

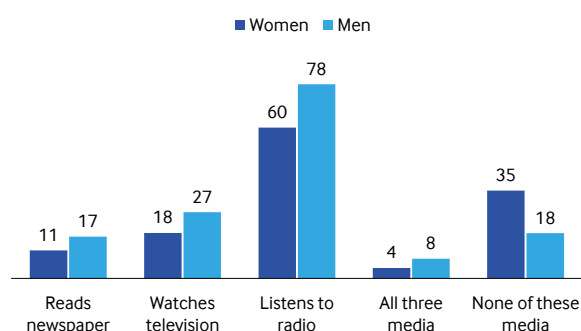
Respondents were asked if they have ever used the internet from any device, if they have used the internet in the last 12 months, and, if so, how often they used it during the last month.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

Data on women's and men's exposure to mass media are essential for the development of educational programmes and the dissemination of all types of information, particularly information about family planning and other important health topics. In Rwanda, radio is the most common form of mass media to which both men and women are exposed. Sixty percent of women and 78% of men listen to the radio at least once a week. Thirty-five percent of women and 18% of men reported not accessing any of the three media forms, while only 4% of women and 8% of men access all three forms of mass media at least once a week (**Table 3.4.1**, **Table 3.4.2**, and **Figure 3.2**).

Figure 3.2 Exposure to mass media

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who are exposed to media on a weekly basis



The internet is a critical tool through which information is shared. Internet use includes accessing web pages, email, and social media. Only 27% of women and 37% of men have ever used the internet, and 26% of women and 35% of men used it in the last 12 months. Among those who used the internet in the last 12 months, more than half used it almost every day (58% of both women and men) (**Table 3.5.1** and **Table 3.5.2**).

Trends: The percentage of respondents who have ever used the internet has increased since 2019–20, from 14% to 27% among women and from 25% to 37% among men.

3.4 Health Insurance Coverage

Eighty-seven percent of women and 88% of men aged 15–49 years have health insurance coverage (**Table 3.6.1** and **Table 3.6.2**). The most common health insurance scheme is Mutuelle/community health insurance (82% among both women and men).

Trends: Health insurance coverage has increased since 2019–20, from 83% among both women and men to 87% among women and 88% among men.

3.5 Tobacco Use

Smoking is a risk factor for cardiovascular diseases and multiple forms of cancer. It also contributes to the severity of pneumonia, emphysema, and chronic bronchitis symptoms. Through second-hand smoke, tobacco use affects the health status of all household members.

Overall, less than 1% of women and 6% of men aged 15–49 years smoke cigarettes or other types of tobacco (**Table 3.7.1** and **Table 3.7.2**). Among men who smoke cigarettes daily, 70% smoke fewer than five cigarettes per day, while 21% smoke five to nine cigarettes per day (**Table 3.8**). Use of any form of smokeless tobacco is also low (less than 1% among both women and men) (**Table 3.9**). Overall, 1% of women and 6% of men aged 15–49 years use any type of tobacco (**Table 3.10**).

Trends: The percentage of men who use any type of tobacco declined from 7% in 2019–20 to 6% in 2025.

3.6 Alcohol Consumption

Alcohol intake in large amounts is associated with an increased risk of alcoholism, malnutrition, chronic pancreatitis, alcohol liver disease, and cancer. Maternal alcohol use during the prenatal period is also a significant concern, as it may lead to miscarriage and stillbirth and can contribute to a range of lifelong physical, behavioural, and intellectual disabilities. These disabilities are known as foetal alcohol spectrum disorders (CDC 2018).

Eighteen percent of women and 50% of men aged 15–49 years consumed any alcohol in the last month. Among those who consumed alcohol, 78% of women and 51% of men did so on 1–5 days during the preceding month. Only 7% of women and 15% of men consumed alcohol every day or almost every day (**Table 3.11.1** and **Table 3.11.2**).

Among respondents who drank any alcohol in the previous month, 48% of women and 32% of men consumed no more than one drink on days when alcohol was consumed; 17% of women and 37% of men consumed two drinks, and 14% of women and 12% of men consumed six or more drinks (**Table 3.12.1** and **Table 3.12.2**).

3.7 Place of Birth and Recent Migration

Recent migration

The percentage of respondents who ever lived outside of their current district and moved to their current place of residence in the 5 years preceding the survey.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years who were born outside their current place of residence

Migration is associated with global issues including economic growth, poverty, and human rights. Sixty-one percent of women and 64% of men report that they have always lived in their current district. Among the 39% of women and 36% of men who were born outside of their current district, 38% of women and 37% of men moved to their current place of residence within the last 5 years (**Table 3.13.1** and **Table 3.13.2**).

3.7.1 Type of Migration

Table 3.14 indicates that, among women and men who moved to their current place of residence within the last 5 years, the most common type of migration was from a rural area to an urban area (accounting for 41% and 36%, respectively). This was followed by urban to urban migration (24% among women and 28% among men) and rural to rural migration (26% among both women and men). Urban to rural migration was the least common type of migration among both women and men.

3.7.2 Reason for Migration

The main reasons for migration among both women and men are employment (accounting for 30% and 60%, respectively) and family reunification or other family-related reasons (representing 30% and 31%, respectively). Twenty-seven percent of women migrate for the purpose of marriage formation (**Table 3.15.1** and **Table 3.15.2**).



List of Tables

For more information on the characteristics of survey respondents, see the following tables:

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Table 3.1 Background characteristics of respondents

Percentage distribution of women and men aged 15–49 years by selected background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Weighted percent	Weighted number	Unweighted number	Weighted percent	Weighted number	Unweighted number
Age						
15–19	20.3	2,897	2,919	22.7	1,337	1,353
20–24	17.4	2,489	2,491	17.3	1,019	1,010
25–29	14.2	2,032	2,014	12.8	754	739
30–34	13.2	1,879	1,882	13.0	766	771
35–39	13.4	1,911	1,890	13.2	779	761
40–44	12.1	1,730	1,735	12.4	731	750
45–49	9.4	1,344	1,352	8.6	505	497
Religion						
Catholic	37.2	5,317	5,402	41.6	2,453	2,463
Protestant	47.2	6,739	6,658	40.2	2,370	2,356
Adventist	12.3	1,762	1,762	12.2	716	721
Muslim	1.5	221	229	2.5	146	140
Jehovah	0.8	121	114	0.6	35	34
Other	0.0	6	5	0.1	4	3
No religion	0.8	117	113	2.8	167	164
Marital status						
Never married	38.5	5,505	5,558	47.1	2,772	2,786
Married	30.0	4,290	4,354	28.6	1,684	1,715
Living together	21.8	3,119	3,012	22.1	1,299	1,248
Divorced/separated	7.7	1,097	1,073	2.0	120	116
Widowed	1.9	272	286	0.3	16	16
Residence						
Urban	32.0	4,570	5,295	32.1	1,889	2,128
Rural	68.0	9,713	8,988	67.9	4,002	3,753
Province						
City of Kigali	16.0	2,290	1,752	17.3	1,020	772
Southern Province	21.6	3,087	3,424	22.4	1,317	1,482
Western Province	20.6	2,949	3,227	18.7	1,100	1,205
Northern Province	14.6	2,089	2,228	14.6	862	927
Eastern Province	27.1	3,868	3,652	27.0	1,591	1,495
Education						
No education	6.5	929	936	5.9	347	346
Primary	55.6	7,938	7,795	58.9	3,469	3,425
Secondary	33.4	4,765	4,864	29.6	1,741	1,740
More than secondary	4.6	651	688	5.7	334	370
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	18.5	2,642	2,641	17.0	1,003	1,012
Second	19.2	2,738	2,676	17.3	1,021	1,018
Middle	19.2	2,746	2,688	19.8	1,167	1,144
Fourth	20.2	2,885	2,859	21.7	1,281	1,252
Highest	22.9	3,272	3,419	24.1	1,419	1,455
Total 15–49	100.0	14,283	14,283	100.0	5,891	5,881
50–59	na	na	na	na	657	667
Total 15–59	na	na	na	na	6,548	6,548

Note: Education categories refer to the highest level of education attended, whether or not that level was completed.

na = Not applicable

Table 3.2.1 Educational attainment: Women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years by highest level of schooling attended or completed, and median years completed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Highest level of schooling						Total	Median years completed	Number of women
	No education	Some primary	Completed primary ¹	Some secondary	Completed secondary ²	More than secondary			
Age									
15–24	1.3	30.3	15.7	41.9	8.4	2.4	100.0	6.0	5,386
15–19	1.0	33.1	13.4	49.2	3.0	0.3	100.0	6.0	2,897
20–24	1.7	26.9	18.4	33.5	14.7	4.9	100.0	6.2	2,489
25–29	2.7	30.2	18.9	25.5	15.3	7.5	100.0	5.9	2,032
30–34	4.5	38.3	15.6	21.3	13.6	6.6	100.0	5.5	1,879
35–39	10.8	49.6	15.7	7.8	10.0	6.1	100.0	4.2	1,911
40–44	15.6	54.6	18.7	3.9	3.0	4.2	100.0	3.3	1,730
45–49	18.2	39.3	30.6	5.6	2.3	4.1	100.0	4.3	1,344
Residence									
Urban	3.6	26.2	15.9	27.2	16.0	11.2	100.0	6.8	4,570
Rural	7.9	43.1	18.9	22.9	5.8	1.4	100.0	4.9	9,713
Province									
City of Kigali	2.6	24.2	18.0	26.0	17.1	12.1	100.0	7.0	2,290
Southern Province	6.4	39.5	19.0	23.6	7.5	4.0	100.0	5.2	3,087
Western Province	9.5	38.9	17.8	22.9	8.2	2.8	100.0	5.1	2,949
Northern Province	6.6	38.4	18.3	26.0	7.8	3.0	100.0	5.3	2,089
Eastern Province	6.6	43.0	16.8	24.0	6.9	2.7	100.0	5.0	3,868
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	15.1	56.4	15.3	12.3	0.8	0.0	100.0	3.5	2,642
Second	8.1	47.9	20.6	20.8	2.5	0.0	100.0	4.6	2,738
Middle	5.4	42.2	20.5	26.8	4.7	0.4	100.0	5.1	2,746
Fourth	4.0	29.7	20.1	31.5	12.1	2.6	100.0	5.8	2,885
Highest	1.3	17.2	13.6	28.4	22.2	17.2	100.0	8.7	3,272
Total	6.5	37.7	17.9	24.3	9.1	4.6	100.0	5.3	14,283

¹ Completed 6th grade (for 6-grade system) and 8th grade (for 8-grade system) at the primary level or were in vocational school

² Completed 6th grade at the secondary level

Table 3.2.2 Educational attainment: Men

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years by highest level of schooling attended or completed, and median years completed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Highest level of schooling						Total	Median years completed	Number of men
	No education	Some primary	Completed primary ¹	Some secondary	Completed secondary ²	More than secondary			
Age									
15–24	2.2	40.5	14.8	33.7	7.2	1.7	100.0	5.4	2,356
15–19	2.1	45.7	11.3	39.0	1.8	0.1	100.0	5.1	1,337
20–24	2.3	33.7	19.3	26.7	14.1	3.9	100.0	5.7	1,019
25–29	1.8	38.3	16.3	19.0	16.1	8.6	100.0	5.6	754
30–34	5.6	35.5	17.8	16.9	14.2	10.0	100.0	5.5	766
35–39	8.7	45.4	18.2	8.6	10.2	8.8	100.0	4.6	779
40–44	12.0	45.3	24.6	5.6	4.9	7.6	100.0	4.4	731
45–49	16.8	35.2	32.1	5.4	5.0	5.5	100.0	4.8	505
Residence									
Urban	3.6	26.2	17.0	23.8	16.2	13.2	100.0	6.5	1,889
Rural	7.0	47.1	19.2	18.8	5.8	2.1	100.0	4.7	4,002
Province									
City of Kigali	2.5	21.7	20.5	23.7	17.8	13.7	100.0	7.1	1,020
Southern Province	7.2	44.8	17.4	18.2	7.2	5.1	100.0	4.8	1,317
Western Province	6.9	45.8	17.5	18.6	7.6	3.6	100.0	4.8	1,100
Northern Province	6.0	40.7	19.6	21.1	8.2	4.4	100.0	5.2	862
Eastern Province	6.2	44.7	18.3	21.0	6.8	3.1	100.0	4.9	1,591
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	13.6	61.4	12.6	10.8	1.3	0.2	100.0	3.3	1,003
Second	8.0	52.9	19.9	16.1	2.9	0.2	100.0	4.1	1,021
Middle	5.6	46.4	21.2	19.4	6.7	0.7	100.0	4.9	1,167
Fourth	2.9	34.0	22.1	26.5	11.2	3.3	100.0	5.6	1,281
Highest	1.8	17.2	16.3	25.6	19.4	19.7	100.0	8.5	1,419
Total 15–49	5.9	40.4	18.5	20.4	9.2	5.7	100.0	5.2	5,891
50–59	17.3	31.4	37.4	7.7	2.0	4.1	100.0	5.0	657
Total 15–59	7.0	39.5	20.4	19.1	8.4	5.5	100.0	5.2	6,548

¹ Completed 6th grade (for 6-grade system) and 8th grade (for 8-grade system) at the primary level or were in vocational school

² Completed 6th grade at the secondary level

Table 3.3.1 Literacy: Women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years by level of schooling attended and level of literacy, and percentage literate, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Higher than primary schooling ¹	No schooling, preschool or primary school					Total	Percentage literate ²	Number of women
		Can read a whole sentence	Can read part of a sentence	Cannot read at all	No card with required language	Blind/visually impaired			
Age									
15–24	53.0	33.5	7.4	6.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	94.0	5,386
15–19	52.9	34.2	7.5	5.3	0.1	0.0	100.0	94.6	2,897
20–24	53.2	32.7	7.3	6.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	93.2	2,489
25–29	48.5	36.2	7.4	7.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	92.1	2,032
30–34	41.7	38.5	9.3	10.5	0.0	0.1	100.0	89.5	1,879
35–39	24.2	45.1	13.2	17.5	0.1	0.1	100.0	82.4	1,911
40–44	11.2	49.5	14.5	24.5	0.1	0.1	100.0	75.3	1,730
45–49	13.3	52.9	10.7	22.8	0.1	0.2	100.0	77.0	1,344
Residence									
Urban	54.7	31.2	7.8	6.2	0.1	0.0	100.0	93.7	4,570
Rural	30.5	43.9	10.5	15.0	0.0	0.1	100.0	84.9	9,713
Province									
City of Kigali	55.6	31.4	8.7	4.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	95.6	2,290
Southern Province	35.6	41.7	8.7	13.9	0.1	0.0	100.0	86.0	3,087
Western Province	34.2	41.2	9.4	15.2	0.1	0.0	100.0	84.7	2,949
Northern Province	37.1	41.2	9.5	12.0	0.0	0.2	100.0	87.8	2,089
Eastern Province	33.7	41.7	11.1	13.4	0.0	0.1	100.0	86.5	3,868
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	13.3	44.6	14.5	27.5	0.0	0.0	100.0	72.5	2,642
Second	23.6	47.7	12.1	16.3	0.1	0.1	100.0	83.5	2,738
Middle	32.2	47.1	10.2	10.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	89.6	2,746
Fourth	46.6	39.2	7.8	6.3	0.0	0.1	100.0	93.6	2,885
Highest	68.2	23.9	4.6	3.2	0.1	0.0	100.0	96.7	3,272
Total	38.2	39.9	9.6	12.2	0.0	0.0	100.0	87.7	14,283

¹ Includes individuals whose highest level of schooling attended was post-primary/vocational school, secondary school, and higher than secondary school

² Refers to women who attended schooling higher than the primary level and women with less schooling who can read a whole sentence or part of a sentence

Table 3.3.2 Literacy: Men

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years by level of schooling attended and level of literacy, and percentage literate, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Higher than primary schooling ¹	No schooling, preschool or primary school				Total	Percentage literate ²	Number of men
		Can read a whole sentence	Can read part of a sentence	Cannot read at all	Blind/visually impaired			
Age								
15–24	43.1	39.7	8.6	8.5	0.1	100.0	91.4	2,356
15–19	41.4	40.3	9.4	8.8	0.2	100.0	91.0	1,337
20–24	45.3	38.9	7.7	8.1	0.0	100.0	91.9	1,019
25–29	44.3	38.7	8.6	8.3	0.1	100.0	91.6	754
30–34	41.2	35.9	12.0	10.8	0.0	100.0	89.2	766
35–39	28.1	46.5	12.0	13.3	0.1	100.0	86.6	779
40–44	18.4	51.5	12.5	17.4	0.1	100.0	82.4	731
45–49	18.1	53.8	8.0	19.9	0.2	100.0	79.9	505
Residence								
Urban	53.8	35.1	5.8	5.3	0.0	100.0	94.7	1,889
Rural	27.3	46.2	11.9	14.4	0.2	100.0	85.4	4,002
Province								
City of Kigali	55.9	34.7	5.9	3.5	0.0	100.0	96.5	1,020
Southern Province	31.6	40.1	13.9	14.0	0.4	100.0	85.7	1,317
Western Province	30.0	45.1	12.5	12.3	0.1	100.0	87.6	1,100
Northern Province	34.0	43.4	10.3	12.3	0.0	100.0	87.7	862
Eastern Province	31.4	47.8	7.3	13.5	0.0	100.0	86.5	1,591
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	12.9	45.0	16.1	25.6	0.4	100.0	74.0	1,003
Second	19.6	49.1	13.9	17.3	0.1	100.0	82.6	1,021
Middle	27.2	50.1	11.1	11.5	0.1	100.0	88.4	1,167
Fourth	41.5	44.7	8.1	5.7	0.0	100.0	94.3	1,281
Highest	65.5	28.5	3.4	2.6	0.0	100.0	97.4	1,419
Total 15–49	35.8	42.7	9.9	11.5	0.1	100.0	88.4	5,891
50–59	19.8	50.3	10.4	19.1	0.5	100.0	80.4	657
Total 15–59	34.2	43.4	10.0	12.3	0.1	100.0	87.6	6,548

¹ Includes individuals whose highest level of schooling attended was post-primary/vocational school, secondary school, and higher than secondary school

² Refers to men who attended schooling higher than the primary level and men with less schooling who can read a whole sentence or part of a sentence

Table 3.4.1 Exposure to mass media: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who are exposed to specific media on a weekly basis, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Reads a newspaper at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Accesses all three media at least once a week	Accesses none of the three media at least once a week	Number of women
Age						
15–19	12.3	20.9	63.9	3.4	30.2	2,897
20–24	13.8	20.1	64.8	5.6	30.3	2,489
25–29	13.2	19.4	62.6	5.1	32.1	2,032
30–34	12.0	19.8	60.7	4.8	33.8	1,879
35–39	10.3	17.7	57.7	5.0	39.1	1,911
40–44	6.6	12.7	52.7	2.1	44.0	1,730
45–49	7.3	13.1	53.9	3.0	43.4	1,344
Residence						
Urban	17.7	38.1	63.8	9.3	26.8	4,570
Rural	8.2	8.9	58.7	1.8	39.0	9,713
Province						
City of Kigali	16.6	40.8	62.6	10.1	28.3	2,290
Southern Province	11.6	14.6	63.3	3.4	33.2	3,087
Western Province	8.9	13.2	57.4	2.1	38.7	2,949
Northern Province	10.7	10.3	68.0	2.8	29.8	2,089
Eastern Province	9.8	15.9	54.7	3.7	40.7	3,868
Education						
No education	0.4	5.3	37.9	0.2	60.5	929
Primary	5.1	10.6	55.8	0.9	41.5	7,938
Secondary	17.5	27.3	70.4	6.5	22.8	4,765
More than secondary	55.4	63.6	74.4	33.3	10.3	651
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	3.7	1.4	36.4	0.3	62.4	2,642
Second	5.1	2.5	54.0	0.3	44.5	2,738
Middle	7.5	4.2	65.5	0.6	32.6	2,746
Fourth	12.5	13.7	68.6	2.7	27.8	2,885
Highest	24.4	60.8	73.4	15.1	13.6	3,272
Total	11.2	18.2	60.3	4.2	35.1	14,283

Table 3.4.2 Exposure to mass media: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who are exposed to specific media on a weekly basis, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Reads a newspaper at least once a week	Watches television at least once a week	Listens to the radio at least once a week	Accesses all three media at least once a week	Accesses none of the three media at least once a week	Number of men
Age						
15–19	10.5	27.9	73.2	5.2	22.0	1,337
20–24	19.9	28.7	80.5	7.8	14.6	1,019
25–29	20.2	26.2	80.9	9.0	14.2	754
30–34	21.2	26.7	79.7	10.3	15.9	766
35–39	19.0	24.4	79.6	8.7	16.7	779
40–44	15.5	24.8	77.3	8.2	19.5	731
45–49	13.0	24.1	72.9	8.0	24.4	505
Residence						
Urban	25.9	41.4	79.7	14.9	13.1	1,889
Rural	12.4	19.5	76.7	4.5	20.5	4,002
Province						
City of Kigali	24.1	38.0	77.8	12.6	14.2	1,020
Southern Province	14.0	21.1	75.7	7.2	21.2	1,317
Western Province	14.5	25.2	75.3	6.9	21.9	1,100
Northern Province	18.5	19.2	86.2	7.1	11.7	862
Eastern Province	14.8	28.5	76.2	6.4	19.0	1,591
Education						
No education	0.3	10.9	52.5	0.3	44.6	347
Primary	7.5	19.1	75.3	2.6	21.6	3,469
Secondary	27.8	36.4	86.0	12.5	8.6	1,741
More than secondary	71.4	67.3	85.1	46.1	4.0	334
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	4.5	10.3	58.7	1.1	38.8	1,003
Second	7.7	10.8	71.0	1.4	26.3	1,021
Middle	12.4	14.8	82.5	3.9	15.0	1,167
Fourth	16.9	26.0	85.7	6.3	11.0	1,281
Highest	35.2	59.2	84.5	21.9	6.7	1,419
Total 15–49	16.7	26.5	77.6	7.9	18.1	5,891
50–59	13.6	21.2	75.2	7.0	22.2	657
Total 15–59	16.4	26.0	77.4	7.8	18.5	6,548

Table 3.5.1 Internet usage: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who have ever used the internet and percentage who have used the internet in the last 12 months, and among women who have used the internet in the last 12 months, percentage distribution by frequency of internet use in the last month, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Ever used the internet	Used the internet in the last 12 months	Number	Among respondents who have used the internet in the last 12 months, percentage who, in the last month, used the internet:				Total	Number
				Almost every day	At least once a week	Less than once a week	Not at all		
Age									
15–19	22.0	20.4	2,897	39.0	35.5	14.9	10.7	100.0	592
20–24	39.2	37.0	2,489	57.7	25.9	8.5	7.9	100.0	922
25–29	37.7	35.9	2,032	63.4	24.0	6.4	6.1	100.0	729
30–34	29.9	28.2	1,879	63.5	24.6	7.5	4.4	100.0	530
35–39	24.4	23.2	1,911	63.7	24.1	8.4	3.8	100.0	443
40–44	13.8	13.0	1,730	66.1	24.8	6.5	2.6	100.0	225
45–49	15.4	14.9	1,344	60.5	25.8	9.9	3.7	100.0	200
Residence									
Urban	50.4	49.0	4,570	67.5	21.6	7.0	3.9	100.0	2,239
Rural	16.0	14.4	9,713	43.0	34.6	11.9	10.5	100.0	1,403
Province									
City of Kigali	53.6	52.4	2,290	68.7	19.7	7.9	3.7	100.0	1,200
Southern Province	23.5	21.8	3,087	58.5	27.0	6.5	8.1	100.0	672
Western Province	20.7	19.3	2,949	50.6	32.1	10.0	7.2	100.0	570
Northern Province	17.5	16.2	2,089	54.7	28.7	8.1	8.5	100.0	339
Eastern Province	24.0	22.3	3,868	49.1	31.4	11.9	7.6	100.0	861
Education									
No education	1.7	1.5	929	*	*	*	*	100.0	14
Primary	12.2	11.2	7,938	40.2	33.4	16.9	9.4	100.0	887
Secondary	46.8	44.1	4,765	55.0	30.1	8.0	6.8	100.0	2,102
More than secondary	98.6	98.2	651	93.4	5.3	0.6	0.6	100.0	639
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	3.3	2.7	2,642	18.8	32.9	21.4	26.9	100.0	73
Second	7.2	6.3	2,738	24.8	43.6	13.5	18.1	100.0	172
Middle	14.6	12.7	2,746	30.7	38.9	14.5	15.8	100.0	348
Fourth	33.1	30.5	2,885	45.0	36.0	12.2	6.8	100.0	881
Highest	67.8	66.3	3,272	71.7	19.2	5.9	3.2	100.0	2,168
Total	27.0	25.5	14,283	58.0	26.6	8.9	6.4	100.0	3,642

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 3.5.2 Internet usage: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who have ever used the internet and percentage who have used the internet in the last 12 months; and among men who have used the internet in the last 12 months, percentage distribution by frequency of internet use in the last month, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Ever used the internet	Used the internet in the last 12 months	Number	Among respondents who have used the internet in the last 12 months, percentage who, in the last month, used the internet:					Number
				Almost every day	At least once a week	Less than once a week	Not at all	Total	
Age									
15–19	25.9	23.6	1,337	44.3	38.7	11.0	5.9	100.0	316
20–24	52.7	49.7	1,019	52.4	33.4	7.5	6.8	100.0	507
25–29	44.8	42.0	754	66.3	25.3	3.2	5.2	100.0	317
30–34	42.6	40.7	766	60.7	28.3	5.5	5.5	100.0	312
35–39	35.3	34.3	779	65.9	23.7	4.4	6.0	100.0	267
40–44	29.4	28.5	731	61.2	27.0	7.4	4.4	100.0	208
45–49	27.9	26.9	505	66.4	22.5	9.4	1.7	100.0	136
Residence									
Urban	61.0	58.7	1,889	70.6	20.9	4.8	3.7	100.0	1,108
Rural	25.6	23.8	4,002	43.5	39.6	9.2	7.6	100.0	954
Province									
City of Kigali	64.8	61.7	1,020	71.3	18.8	5.8	4.2	100.0	629
Southern Province	29.9	28.6	1,317	54.4	36.3	5.7	3.6	100.0	377
Western Province	30.1	28.1	1,100	47.6	36.6	10.2	5.6	100.0	310
Northern Province	32.2	31.0	862	53.1	34.3	6.0	6.6	100.0	267
Eastern Province	32.2	30.2	1,591	53.2	31.2	7.3	8.2	100.0	480
Education									
No education	2.9	2.6	347	*	*	*	*	100.0	9
Primary	22.1	20.2	3,469	44.3	38.1	9.4	8.1	100.0	702
Secondary	61.6	58.8	1,741	56.0	31.5	7.2	5.4	100.0	1,023
More than secondary	98.8	98.5	334	93.8	5.3	0.3	0.7	100.0	329
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	7.1	5.9	1,003	14.2	59.4	11.6	14.9	100.0	59
Second	17.2	15.0	1,021	29.0	42.1	12.1	16.8	100.0	154
Middle	25.5	23.1	1,167	41.0	40.8	11.9	6.3	100.0	269
Fourth	44.0	41.9	1,281	48.2	36.6	9.2	6.0	100.0	537
Highest	75.3	73.6	1,419	74.4	19.5	3.2	2.9	100.0	1,044
Total 15–49	37.0	35.0	5,891	58.1	29.6	6.8	5.5	100.0	2,063
50–59	19.2	18.3	657	67.5	23.4	5.6	3.5	100.0	120
Total 15–59	35.2	33.3	6,548	58.6	29.2	6.7	5.4	100.0	2,183

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 3.6.1 Health insurance coverage: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years with specific types of health insurance coverage, and percentage with any health insurance, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Mutuelle/ community health insurance	RAMA/RSSB	MMI	Private insurance company	Employer	Other	None	Any health insurance	Number of women
Age									
15–19	84.9	1.3	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	13.0	87.0	2,897
20–24	84.8	1.8	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.1	12.2	87.8	2,489
25–29	82.0	4.7	1.7	0.7	0.2	0.0	11.0	89.0	2,032
30–34	79.8	4.9	1.9	0.8	0.0	0.0	12.6	87.4	1,879
35–39	79.9	5.3	1.6	1.2	0.1	0.0	12.0	88.0	1,911
40–44	80.6	3.9	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.0	14.4	85.6	1,730
45–49	81.1	3.5	1.3	1.1	0.0	0.0	13.0	87.0	1,344
Residence									
Urban	76.6	5.9	2.5	1.9	0.2	0.1	13.0	87.0	4,570
Rural	84.9	2.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	12.3	87.7	9,713
Province									
City of Kigali	76.9	4.0	1.4	2.5	0.3	0.0	15.1	84.9	2,290
Southern Province	82.2	4.0	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	12.8	87.2	3,087
Western Province	82.6	3.3	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.1	13.2	86.8	2,949
Northern Province	89.3	3.4	1.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	6.1	93.9	2,089
Eastern Province	81.3	2.7	1.8	0.4	0.1	0.0	13.9	86.1	3,868
Education									
No education	75.6	0.0	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	23.6	76.4	929
Primary	84.4	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	14.9	85.1	7,938
Secondary	85.3	4.6	2.0	0.7	0.0	0.1	7.6	92.4	4,765
More than secondary	43.2	37.4	5.5	9.8	0.8	0.2	4.6	95.4	651
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	73.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.1	73.9	2,642
Second	86.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.0	87.0	2,738
Middle	90.1	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	90.9	2,746
Fourth	86.1	3.2	0.9	0.3	0.0	0.0	9.6	90.4	2,885
Highest	75.2	11.4	3.8	2.8	0.3	0.1	6.8	93.2	3,272
Total	82.2	3.4	1.1	0.7	0.1	0.0	12.6	87.4	14,283

RAMA = Rwandaise d'Assurance Maladie

RSSB = Rwandan Social Security Board

MMI = Military Medical Insurance

Table 3.6.2 Health insurance coverage: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years with specific types of health insurance coverage, and percentage with any health insurance, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Mutuelle/ community health insurance	RAMA/RSSB	MMI	Private insurance company	Employer	None	Any health insurance	Number of men
Age								
15–19	84.4	2.1	0.9	0.5	0.0	12.2	87.8	1,337
20–24	84.9	2.6	0.8	1.0	0.0	10.9	89.1	1,019
25–29	82.1	3.4	0.7	2.7	0.0	11.6	88.4	754
30–34	79.5	5.3	0.3	3.1	0.1	11.9	88.1	766
35–39	80.3	5.9	0.9	1.5	0.0	12.0	88.0	779
40–44	78.8	6.5	0.7	1.6	0.5	12.5	87.5	731
45–49	80.9	6.1	1.0	0.7	0.0	11.4	88.6	505
Residence								
Urban	76.6	6.9	1.7	4.1	0.2	11.2	88.8	1,889
Rural	84.5	2.9	0.3	0.2	0.0	12.1	87.9	4,002
Province								
City of Kigali	80.5	3.8	1.7	5.3	0.2	9.1	90.9	1,020
Southern Province	80.6	5.3	0.5	1.1	0.1	12.5	87.5	1,317
Western Province	80.4	3.9	0.5	0.3	0.0	15.0	85.0	1,100
Northern Province	88.1	4.5	0.4	0.7	0.0	6.2	93.8	862
Eastern Province	81.9	3.4	0.8	0.6	0.0	13.8	86.2	1,591
Education								
No education	72.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	27.4	72.6	347
Primary	85.6	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.0	13.2	86.8	3,469
Secondary	84.2	5.5	1.6	1.9	0.0	7.1	92.9	1,741
More than secondary	43.3	37.8	2.3	13.4	0.9	5.2	94.8	334
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	71.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	28.1	71.9	1,003
Second	86.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.1	86.9	1,021
Middle	90.0	0.9	0.0	0.1	0.0	9.0	91.0	1,167
Fourth	88.7	3.2	0.9	0.9	0.3	6.4	93.6	1,281
Highest	73.2	13.3	2.4	5.3	0.0	6.6	93.4	1,419
Total 15–49	82.0	4.2	0.8	1.5	0.1	11.8	88.2	5,891
50–59	84.9	3.0	1.9	0.8	0.0	9.8	90.2	657
Total 15–59	82.3	4.1	0.9	1.4	0.1	11.6	88.4	6,548

RAMA = Rwandaise d'Assurance Maladie

RSSB = Rwandan Social Security Board

MMI = Military Medical Insurance

Table 3.7.1 Tobacco smoking: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who smoke various tobacco products, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who smoke: ¹			Number of women
	Cigarettes ²	Other type of tobacco ³	Any type of tobacco	
Age				
15–19	0.3	0.0	0.3	2,897
20–24	0.3	0.1	0.3	2,489
25–29	0.4	0.1	0.4	2,032
30–34	0.6	0.1	0.6	1,879
35–39	0.6	0.2	0.6	1,911
40–44	0.8	0.5	1.1	1,730
45–49	1.3	0.7	1.6	1,344
Residence				
Urban	0.5	0.2	0.5	4,570
Rural	0.6	0.2	0.7	9,713
Province				
City of Kigali	0.8	0.4	0.8	2,290
Southern Province	0.6	0.1	0.7	3,087
Western Province	0.2	0.0	0.2	2,949
Northern Province	0.3	0.2	0.5	2,089
Eastern Province	0.8	0.2	0.9	3,868
Education				
No education	2.1	0.8	2.3	929
Primary	0.5	0.2	0.6	7,938
Secondary	0.4	0.0	0.4	4,765
More than secondary	0.5	0.2	0.5	651
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	1.0	0.4	1.1	2,642
Second	0.7	0.3	0.9	2,738
Middle	0.4	0.2	0.5	2,746
Fourth	0.4	0.0	0.5	2,885
Highest	0.3	0.1	0.3	3,272
Total	0.6	0.2	0.6	14,283

¹ Includes daily and occasional (less than daily) use

² Cigarettes include kreteks.

³ Includes pipes full of tobacco, cigars, cheroots, cigarillos, and water pipes

Table 3.7.2 Tobacco smoking: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who smoke various tobacco products, and percentage distribution of men by smoking frequency, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who smoke: ¹			Smoking frequency			Total	Number of men
	Cigarettes ²	Other type of tobacco ³	Any type of tobacco	Daily smoker	Occasional smoker ⁴	Nonsmoker		
Age								
15–19	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.1	99.5	100.0	1,337
20–24	1.6	0.1	1.6	1.1	0.5	98.4	100.0	1,019
25–29	3.9	0.2	3.9	2.1	1.8	96.1	100.0	754
30–34	6.3	0.6	6.3	3.6	2.6	93.7	100.0	766
35–39	9.2	0.3	9.3	7.1	2.2	90.7	100.0	779
40–44	11.9	0.4	12.0	9.1	2.9	88.0	100.0	731
45–49	14.0	0.5	14.3	11.3	3.0	85.7	100.0	505
Residence								
Urban	6.0	0.2	6.1	4.5	1.5	93.9	100.0	1,889
Rural	5.4	0.3	5.4	3.8	1.6	94.6	100.0	4,002
Province								
City of Kigali	7.3	0.3	7.4	5.7	1.7	92.6	100.0	1,020
Southern Province	6.2	0.2	6.2	4.9	1.2	93.8	100.0	1,317
Western Province	2.7	0.1	2.7	1.7	1.0	97.3	100.0	1,100
Northern Province	4.8	0.5	5.0	2.9	2.1	95.0	100.0	862
Eastern Province	6.5	0.4	6.5	4.6	1.9	93.5	100.0	1,591
Education								
No education	17.7	0.2	17.9	12.4	5.5	82.1	100.0	347
Primary	6.1	0.4	6.1	4.6	1.5	93.9	100.0	3,469
Secondary	2.6	0.2	2.6	1.7	0.9	97.4	100.0	1,741
More than secondary	3.3	0.0	3.3	1.9	1.4	96.7	100.0	334
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	12.4	0.5	12.5	8.7	3.9	87.5	100.0	1,003
Second	5.6	0.6	5.7	4.5	1.2	94.3	100.0	1,021
Middle	3.4	0.3	3.5	2.4	1.1	96.5	100.0	1,167
Fourth	3.9	0.1	3.9	2.9	1.1	96.1	100.0	1,281
Highest	4.0	0.1	4.0	3.0	1.0	96.0	100.0	1,419
Total 15–49	5.6	0.3	5.6	4.1	1.6	94.4	100.0	5,891
50–59	16.9	1.1	17.5	12.3	5.1	82.5	100.0	657
Total 15–59	6.7	0.4	6.8	4.9	1.9	93.2	100.0	6,548

¹ Includes daily and occasional (less than daily) use

² Includes manufactured cigarettes, hand-rolled cigarettes, and kreteks

³ Includes pipes, cigars, cheroots, cigarillos, and water pipes

⁴ Occasional refers to less often than daily use.

Table 3.8 Average number of cigarettes smoked daily: Men

Among men aged 15–49 years who smoke cigarettes daily, percentage distribution by average number of cigarettes smoked per day, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Average number of cigarettes smoked per day ¹					Total	Number of respondents who smoke cigarettes daily ¹
	<5	5–9	10–14	15–24	≥25		
Age							
15–19	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	5
20–24	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	10
25–29	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	16
30–34	(71.7)	(20.2)	(8.1)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100.0	28
35–39	(75.6)	(19.0)	(3.0)	(0.0)	(2.4)	100.0	53
40–44	66.5	27.5	5.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	66
45–49	68.9	14.7	14.1	2.3	0.0	100.0	56
Residence							
Urban	62.4	25.5	7.9	3.6	0.6	100.0	84
Rural	74.3	18.1	6.0	0.7	0.9	100.0	148
Province							
City of Kigali	(61.2)	(25.6)	(7.9)	(5.2)	(0.0)	100.0	57
Southern Province	70.2	25.9	1.5	1.6	0.8	100.0	65
Western Province	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	18
Northern Province	(78.4)	(17.0)	(4.5)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100.0	23
Eastern Province	72.5	17.0	8.6	0.0	1.8	100.0	69
Education							
No education	(69.8)	(19.6)	(8.0)	(2.6)	(0.0)	100.0	41
Primary	71.9	20.7	5.7	0.8	0.8	100.0	154
Secondary	(62.0)	(19.6)	(11.2)	(5.6)	(1.6)	100.0	30
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	6
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	73.0	20.4	5.3	1.2	0.0	100.0	85
Second	(74.4)	(20.5)	(5.1)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100.0	45
Middle	(68.9)	(23.2)	(7.9)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100.0	26
Fourth	(74.8)	(19.8)	(1.7)	(0.0)	(3.8)	100.0	34
Highest	(56.3)	(21.1)	(14.3)	(7.1)	(1.2)	100.0	42
Total 15–49	70.0	20.8	6.7	1.7	0.8	100.0	232
50–59	75.5	16.7	4.5	3.2	0.0	100.0	76
Total 15–59	71.4	19.8	6.2	2.1	0.6	100.0	309

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Includes manufactured cigarettes, hand-rolled cigarettes, and kreteks

Table 3.9 Smokeless tobacco use and any tobacco use

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who currently use smokeless tobacco, according to type of tobacco product, and percentage who use any type of tobacco, Rwanda DHS 2025

Tobacco product	Women	Men
Snuff, by mouth	0.3	0.2
Snuff, by nose	0.0	0.2
Chewing tobacco	0.2	0.0
Betel quid with tobacco	0.0	0.0
Other type of smokeless tobacco	0.0	0.0
Any type of smokeless tobacco ¹	0.5	0.3
Any type of tobacco ²	1.0	5.7
Number	14,283	5,891

Note: Table includes women and men who use smokeless tobacco daily or occasionally (less than daily).

¹ Includes snuff by mouth, snuff by nose, chewing tobacco, and betel quid with tobacco

² Includes all types of smokeless tobacco shown in this table along with cigarettes, kreteks, pipes, cigars, cheroots, cigarillos, and water pipes

Table 3.10 Any tobacco use according to background characteristics

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who are currently using any type of tobacco, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Percentage using any type of tobacco	Number of women	Percentage using any type of tobacco	Number of men
Age				
15–19	0.3	2,897	0.5	1,337
20–24	0.3	2,489	1.6	1,019
25–29	0.5	2,032	3.9	754
30–34	0.7	1,879	6.3	766
35–39	1.2	1,911	9.5	779
40–44	2.4	1,730	12.2	731
45–49	2.7	1,344	14.3	505
Residence				
Urban	0.6	4,570	6.2	1,889
Rural	1.2	9,713	5.5	4,002
Province				
City of Kigali	0.8	2,290	7.4	1,020
Southern Province	1.6	3,087	6.3	1,317
Western Province	0.3	2,949	2.8	1,100
Northern Province	0.7	2,089	5.0	862
Eastern Province	1.3	3,868	6.5	1,591
Education				
No education	4.3	929	17.9	347
Primary	1.0	7,938	6.2	3,469
Secondary	0.4	4,765	2.7	1,741
More than secondary	0.5	651	3.3	334
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	2.2	2,642	12.5	1,003
Second	1.3	2,738	5.8	1,021
Middle	0.8	2,746	3.5	1,167
Fourth	0.5	2,885	3.9	1,281
Highest	0.3	3,272	4.1	1,419
Total 15–49	1.0	14,283	5.7	5,891
50–59	na	na	17.6	657
Total 15–59	na	na	6.9	6,548

na = Not applicable



Table 3.11.1 Alcohol consumption: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who have consumed any alcohol in the last month; and among women who have consumed any alcohol in the last month, percentage distribution by frequency of drinking (number of days alcohol was consumed), according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Consumed any alcohol in the last month	Number of women	Among women who have consumed any alcohol in the last month, percentage distribution by frequency of drinking:					Number of women who consumed any alcohol in the last month
			1–5 days	6–10 days	11–24 days	Every day/almost every day ¹	Total	
Age								
15–19	7.5	2,897	87.8	4.6	5.6	2.0	100.0	219
20–24	13.4	2,489	76.7	13.0	3.0	7.3	100.0	332
25–29	16.3	2,032	78.1	9.3	5.2	7.4	100.0	332
30–34	21.5	1,879	78.3	8.4	5.8	7.5	100.0	405
35–39	21.6	1,911	80.6	9.4	4.1	5.9	100.0	412
40–44	27.9	1,730	75.4	11.0	4.7	9.0	100.0	483
45–49	28.9	1,344	73.8	11.0	8.0	7.3	100.0	388
Residence								
Urban	12.7	4,570	76.6	10.8	4.1	8.4	100.0	579
Rural	20.5	9,713	78.4	9.5	5.5	6.6	100.0	1,992
Province								
City of Kigali	10.5	2,290	76.6	9.7	3.9	9.8	100.0	242
Southern Province	25.6	3,087	80.3	8.8	3.5	7.4	100.0	791
Western Province	13.3	2,949	77.0	10.5	5.5	7.0	100.0	391
Northern Province	26.1	2,089	80.3	9.4	5.8	4.5	100.0	545
Eastern Province	15.6	3,868	74.1	11.1	7.1	7.6	100.0	602
Education								
No education	24.9	929	73.8	8.1	5.4	12.7	100.0	232
Primary	21.1	7,938	77.6	10.1	5.5	6.8	100.0	1,672
Secondary	12.4	4,765	80.1	9.3	4.7	5.9	100.0	593
More than secondary	11.5	651	83.4	12.0	2.2	2.4	100.0	75
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	24.4	2,642	76.7	9.9	5.8	7.5	100.0	645
Second	21.7	2,738	78.6	10.5	3.7	7.2	100.0	593
Middle	17.9	2,746	78.2	8.8	7.3	5.7	100.0	492
Fourth	15.8	2,885	78.8	9.9	3.9	7.5	100.0	455
Highest	11.8	3,272	78.3	9.7	5.3	6.8	100.0	386
Total	18.0	14,283	78.0	9.8	5.2	7.0	100.0	2,571

¹ The respondent reported that she drank alcohol every day, almost every day, or 25 or more days in the last month.

Table 3.11.2 Alcohol consumption: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who have consumed any alcohol in the last month; and among men who have consumed any alcohol in the last month, percentage distribution by frequency of drinking (number of days alcohol was consumed), according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Consumed any alcohol in the last month	Number of men	Among men who have consumed any alcohol in the last month, percentage distribution by frequency of drinking:					Number of men who consumed any alcohol in the last month
			1–5 days	6–10 days	11–24 days	Every day/almost every day ¹	Total	
Age								
15–19	22.2	1,337	74.4	12.1	7.8	5.8	100.0	296
20–24	46.7	1,019	60.8	16.5	13.1	9.5	100.0	476
25–29	58.2	754	47.2	22.0	16.0	14.8	100.0	438
30–34	62.0	766	53.2	19.8	12.8	14.1	100.0	474
35–39	61.5	779	45.7	17.8	16.3	20.2	100.0	479
40–44	64.8	731	40.8	20.1	19.4	19.7	100.0	474
45–49	63.3	505	42.5	21.2	15.6	20.6	100.0	320
Residence								
Urban	48.8	1,889	49.1	21.4	17.0	12.4	100.0	922
Rural	50.9	4,002	52.3	17.5	13.7	16.5	100.0	2,037
Province								
City of Kigali	49.7	1,020	49.1	22.7	17.1	11.0	100.0	507
Southern Province	54.1	1,317	53.7	19.6	14.4	12.2	100.0	712
Western Province	45.3	1,100	50.9	16.8	16.0	16.3	100.0	499
Northern Province	59.4	862	50.6	20.4	16.0	13.1	100.0	513
Eastern Province	45.7	1,591	51.3	15.2	11.7	21.8	100.0	728
Education								
No education	62.5	347	44.6	20.8	14.8	19.9	100.0	217
Primary	53.5	3,469	49.8	18.4	15.5	16.3	100.0	1,855
Secondary	41.3	1,741	55.5	18.5	13.8	12.2	100.0	718
More than secondary	50.3	334	58.4	20.6	10.5	10.4	100.0	168
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	59.3	1,003	52.3	18.8	11.7	17.2	100.0	595
Second	55.0	1,021	51.0	16.4	15.7	16.9	100.0	562
Middle	49.4	1,167	53.5	18.2	13.7	14.7	100.0	577
Fourth	49.5	1,281	50.6	18.1	16.0	15.3	100.0	633
Highest	41.7	1,419	49.2	22.1	16.6	12.1	100.0	591
Total 15–49	50.2	5,891	51.3	18.7	14.7	15.2	100.0	2,959
50–59	62.1	657	38.7	24.3	16.6	20.5	100.0	408
Total 15–59	51.4	6,548	49.8	19.4	15.0	15.9	100.0	3,367

¹ The respondent reported that he drank alcohol every day, almost every day, or 25 or more days in the last month.

Table 3.12.1 Usual number of alcoholic drinks consumed: Women

Among women aged 15–49 years who have consumed any alcohol in the last month, percentage distribution of usual number of drinks consumed on days when alcohol was consumed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

	Percentage distribution of usual number of drinks consumed on days when alcohol was consumed								Number of women who consumed any alcohol in the last month
Background characteristic	<1	1	2	3	4	5	6 or more	Total	
Age									
15–19	29.0	38.9	12.6	7.7	2.9	4.5	4.4	100.0	219
20–24	10.3	40.7	15.3	8.2	9.1	2.8	13.6	100.0	332
25–29	11.1	37.0	15.7	10.1	8.0	3.9	14.1	100.0	332
30–34	7.1	35.6	20.6	8.1	8.0	3.8	16.7	100.0	405
35–39	9.2	35.9	16.7	11.3	7.8	3.9	15.2	100.0	412
40–44	11.1	34.4	20.2	8.1	10.6	2.4	13.2	100.0	483
45–49	7.7	36.5	17.0	10.0	8.0	4.8	15.9	100.0	388
Frequency of drinking in last month									
1–5 days	12.4	38.1	18.0	10.7	9.7	3.9	7.2	100.0	2,006
6–10 days	6.5	28.6	15.0	2.7	4.7	2.3	40.2	100.0	252
11–24 days	4.4	33.1	15.4	2.8	1.1	2.3	41.0	100.0	133
Every day/almost every day ¹	8.0	35.2	14.8	5.4	1.4	3.5	31.8	100.0	179
Residence									
Urban	9.6	29.2	18.2	9.7	9.2	5.2	18.8	100.0	579
Rural	11.5	38.9	17.1	9.0	7.9	3.2	12.5	100.0	1,992
Province									
City of Kigali	7.8	25.9	16.5	10.6	9.7	6.5	23.0	100.0	242
Southern Province	13.9	44.7	15.6	7.3	6.2	1.5	10.8	100.0	791
Western Province	17.2	34.1	17.9	10.2	6.9	2.8	10.8	100.0	391
Northern Province	5.5	33.5	17.5	8.8	11.6	5.3	17.9	100.0	545
Eastern Province	9.9	35.1	19.6	10.6	7.8	4.2	12.8	100.0	602
Education									
No education	7.1	32.4	17.2	13.2	9.1	4.3	16.7	100.0	232
Primary	10.7	37.7	17.8	9.2	7.9	3.2	13.4	100.0	1,672
Secondary	13.5	37.1	15.3	7.6	8.1	3.8	14.5	100.0	593
More than secondary	13.8	24.1	24.1	7.8	10.4	8.8	11.0	100.0	75
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	10.8	38.9	17.0	9.2	8.0	2.9	13.2	100.0	645
Second	10.9	35.8	18.1	10.2	8.8	2.8	13.5	100.0	593
Middle	10.1	38.5	17.5	8.0	8.7	4.1	13.1	100.0	492
Fourth	12.1	38.7	15.4	10.0	6.3	3.7	13.9	100.0	455
Highest	11.9	29.8	18.9	8.1	8.9	5.4	17.0	100.0	386
Total	11.1	36.7	17.4	9.2	8.2	3.6	13.9	100.0	2,571

Note: One drink of alcohol corresponds to one can or bottle of beer, one glass of wine, or one shot of spirits. Respondents who reported that they drank a few sips of an alcoholic drink were recorded as having consumed less than one standard drink.

¹ The respondent reported that she drank alcohol every day, almost every day, or 25 or more days in the last month.

Table 3.12.2 Usual number of alcoholic drinks consumed: Men

Among men aged 15–49 years who have consumed any alcohol in the last month, percentage distribution of usual number of drinks consumed on days when alcohol was consumed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage distribution of usual number of drinks consumed on days when alcohol was consumed							Number of men who consumed any alcohol in the last month
	1	2	3	4	5	6 or more	Total	
Age								
15–19	65.1	24.6	4.4	1.5	0.7	3.6	100.0	296
20–24	31.8	36.3	9.1	8.2	3.4	11.2	100.0	476
25–29	28.7	36.6	14.5	5.3	1.7	13.3	100.0	438
30–34	27.9	38.9	13.7	5.1	1.9	12.4	100.0	474
35–39	27.1	38.5	13.0	3.9	2.7	14.8	100.0	479
40–44	25.6	39.7	13.3	6.1	1.0	14.2	100.0	474
45–49	26.2	41.2	11.3	5.5	2.2	13.7	100.0	320
Frequency of drinking in last month								
1–5 days	36.4	32.6	11.0	6.7	2.2	11.1	100.0	1,518
6–10 days	24.3	42.2	11.0	3.2	1.4	18.0	100.0	554
11–24 days	25.3	43.3	14.9	3.3	0.9	12.3	100.0	436
Every day/almost every day ¹	31.3	39.6	11.9	5.0	3.1	9.1	100.0	450
Residence								
Urban	22.1	39.1	13.8	7.7	2.5	14.8	100.0	922
Rural	36.0	36.1	10.8	4.2	1.8	11.1	100.0	2,037
Province								
City of Kigali	24.3	39.2	11.3	8.8	3.3	13.0	100.0	507
Southern Province	34.7	33.0	11.8	4.4	1.8	14.2	100.0	712
Western Province	32.3	41.5	8.8	4.1	1.0	12.2	100.0	499
Northern Province	32.7	45.3	13.0	3.7	1.2	4.2	100.0	513
Eastern Province	32.8	30.6	13.0	5.6	2.5	15.6	100.0	728
Education								
No education	33.1	32.9	13.1	4.1	1.7	15.2	100.0	217
Primary	32.0	38.6	10.9	4.6	2.0	11.9	100.0	1,855
Secondary	34.0	33.8	11.8	6.0	2.0	12.4	100.0	718
More than secondary	16.5	39.2	18.5	11.4	2.7	11.7	100.0	168
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	33.0	37.2	10.6	4.0	2.0	13.3	100.0	595
Second	35.3	37.7	10.7	4.1	1.6	10.6	100.0	562
Middle	38.3	34.6	10.4	4.2	1.5	10.9	100.0	577
Fourth	30.9	37.4	11.4	4.6	2.3	13.4	100.0	633
Highest	21.4	38.1	15.3	9.5	2.6	13.0	100.0	591
Total 15–49	31.7	37.0	11.7	5.3	2.0	12.3	100.0	2,959
50–59	29.4	43.3	9.2	5.2	0.8	12.2	100.0	408
Total 15–59	31.4	37.8	11.4	5.3	1.9	12.3	100.0	3,367

Note: One drink of alcohol corresponds to one can or bottle of beer, one glass of wine, or one shot of spirits.

¹ The respondent reported that he drank alcohol every day, almost every day, or 25 or more days in the last month.

Table 3.13.1 Place of birth and recent migration: Women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years who have always lived in their current district, who were born in Rwanda but outside of their current district, and who were born in another country, and among women who were born outside of their current district, percentage who moved to their current district in the last 5 years, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage distribution by residence and place of birth				Number of women	Among women who were born outside of current district	
	Always lived in current district ¹	Born in Rwanda but outside of current district	Born outside of Rwanda	Total		Percentage who moved to current district in the last 5 years	Number of women ²
Age							
15–19	73.4	25.6	1.0	100.0	2,871	53.7	763
20–24	62.1	36.8	1.1	100.0	2,466	64.9	934
25–29	54.8	42.6	2.6	100.0	2,019	49.2	912
30–34	55.9	40.4	3.7	100.0	1,874	33.1	827
35–39	55.6	41.7	2.7	100.0	1,908	22.0	848
40–44	60.3	36.5	3.2	100.0	1,727	15.5	686
45–49	61.8	33.9	4.4	100.0	1,344	10.7	514
Residence							
Urban	38.6	56.3	5.2	100.0	4,534	49.0	2,785
Rural	72.1	26.7	1.1	100.0	9,674	26.8	2,697
Province							
City of Kigali	30.6	64.9	4.4	100.0	2,282	50.2	1,583
Southern Province	66.7	32.3	1.0	100.0	3,059	35.2	1,019
Western Province	79.1	19.2	1.7	100.0	2,941	34.4	616
Northern Province	81.0	18.1	0.9	100.0	2,086	37.9	396
Eastern Province	51.3	44.9	3.8	100.0	3,842	30.6	1,870
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	66.0	33.2	0.8	100.0	2,631	29.2	894
Second	74.9	24.2	0.9	100.0	2,734	21.6	686
Middle	73.3	26.0	0.7	100.0	2,738	24.6	731
Fourth	58.4	39.4	2.1	100.0	2,868	39.3	1,193
Highest	38.9	54.4	6.7	100.0	3,239	52.0	1,979
Total	61.4	36.2	2.4	100.0	14,209	38.0	5,483

Note: Respondents who are visitors in the household are excluded from this table.

¹ May include respondents who were born elsewhere in Rwanda but moved to their current district when very young.

² Includes respondents who reported that they were born outside of Rwanda but also declared that they always lived in their current district. Such respondents are assumed not to have moved in the last 5 years.

Table 3.13.2 Place of birth and recent migration: Men

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years who have always lived in their current district, who were born in Rwanda but outside of their current district, and who were born in another country, and among men who were born outside of their current district, percentage who moved to their current district in the last 5 years, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage distribution by residence and place of birth				Number of men	Among men who were born outside of current district	
	Always lived in current district ¹	Born in Rwanda but outside of current district	Born outside of Rwanda	Total		Percentage who moved to current district in the last 5 years	
							Number of men ²
Age							
15–19	77.6	21.3	1.1	100.0	1,333	48.8	298
20–24	67.8	31.3	0.9	100.0	1,015	55.3	327
25–29	54.4	43.3	2.3	100.0	752	49.0	343
30–34	56.3	38.4	5.3	100.0	762	36.3	333
35–39	56.0	40.0	4.0	100.0	777	25.1	342
40–44	61.2	34.7	4.1	100.0	730	20.4	283
45–49	62.7	33.9	3.4	100.0	505	8.7	189
Residence							
Urban	37.3	56.7	6.1	100.0	1,884	41.5	1,182
Rural	76.6	22.3	1.1	100.0	3,992	30.5	934
Province							
City of Kigali	27.1	66.8	6.1	100.0	1,017	43.3	741
Southern Province	73.4	25.1	1.5	100.0	1,311	42.0	349
Western Province	82.2	16.0	1.9	100.0	1,100	33.1	196
Northern Province	83.7	15.6	0.6	100.0	861	41.8	140
Eastern Province	56.6	40.2	3.3	100.0	1,587	26.8	689
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	74.6	24.1	1.3	100.0	1,003	28.1	255
Second	78.7	20.6	0.7	100.0	1,021	26.0	217
Middle	75.5	23.3	1.2	100.0	1,164	27.2	286
Fourth	61.3	36.1	2.6	100.0	1,276	40.9	494
Highest	38.8	54.7	6.5	100.0	1,412	42.5	864
Total 15–49	64.0	33.3	2.7	100.0	5,876	36.6	2,116
50–59	61.8	32.2	6.0	100.0	655	11.6	250
Total 15–59	63.8	33.2	3.0	100.0	6,531	34.0	2,366

Note: Respondents who are visitors in the household are excluded from this table.

¹ May include respondents who were born elsewhere in Rwanda but moved to their current district when very young.

² Includes respondents who reported that they were born outside of Rwanda but also declared that they always lived in their current district. Such respondents are assumed not to have moved in the last 5 years.

Table 3.14 Type of migration

Percentage distribution of women and men aged 15–49 years who have moved to their current place of residence in the last 5 years by type of migration, according to age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age	Type of migration				Total	Number of respondents
	Urban to urban	Urban to rural	Rural to urban	Rural to rural		
Women 15–49						
15–19	12.9	7.6	56.7	22.8	100.0	409
20–24	23.5	6.7	47.7	22.1	100.0	606
25–29	27.4	9.0	37.0	26.6	100.0	449
30–34	30.7	10.6	29.2	29.5	100.0	274
35–39	31.3	10.1	29.9	28.6	100.0	186
40–44	24.3	12.1	22.7	40.9	100.0	106
45–49	33.6	7.6	22.4	36.4	100.0	55
Total 15–49	24.2	8.5	41.2	26.1	100.0	2,086
Men 15–49						
15–19	10.1	10.9	36.5	42.5	100.0	146
20–24	28.3	8.1	44.2	19.4	100.0	181
25–29	31.5	7.1	43.2	18.3	100.0	168
30–34	40.8	16.3	26.8	16.2	100.0	121
35–39	24.8	7.6	29.6	38.0	100.0	86
40–44	37.0	17.1	18.9	27.0	100.0	58
45–49	*	*	*	*	100.0	16
Total 15–49	27.7	10.7	35.5	26.1	100.0	775
50–59	(23.5)	(14.5)	(12.7)	(49.3)	100.0	29
Total 15–59	27.6	10.9	34.7	26.9	100.0	804

Note: Type of migration is based on categorising the previous place of residence and the current place of residence as urban or rural. The previous place of residence is the place the person moved from just before moving to the current place of residence. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 3.15.1 Reason for migration: Women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years who moved to their current place of residence by reason for migration, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Employment	Education/ training	Marriage formation	Family reunification/ other family- related reason	Nonvoluntary displacement	Natural disaster	Other	Total	Number of women
Age									
15–19	31.5	7.1	2.5	46.1	4.8	0.4	7.6	100.0	760
20–24	35.7	6.6	22.0	28.7	3.2	0.0	3.8	100.0	934
25–29	30.8	3.0	32.5	25.2	3.8	0.1	4.6	100.0	909
30–34	29.5	2.2	34.7	26.9	3.5	0.1	3.2	100.0	824
35–39	27.3	0.7	35.1	27.7	5.0	0.4	3.8	100.0	847
40–44	27.1	1.3	32.5	29.5	5.0	0.0	4.7	100.0	684
45–49	25.9	1.0	30.0	31.2	6.3	0.6	5.0	100.0	510
Timing of move to current place of residence									
0–4 years	44.9	5.0	19.7	25.3	3.1	0.2	1.7	100.0	2,086
5–9 years	26.2	3.3	31.1	32.7	4.9	0.1	1.8	100.0	1,135
10 years or more	18.3	1.7	31.7	34.0	5.3	0.3	8.7	100.0	2,247
Type of migration¹									
Urban to urban	44.8	5.4	16.4	26.2	3.2	0.0	4.1	100.0	505
Urban to rural	26.4	3.4	22.9	37.3	5.4	0.7	4.0	100.0	177
Rural to urban	57.1	6.8	14.6	19.2	1.5	0.2	0.6	100.0	859
Rural to rural	31.8	2.5	30.0	30.4	4.6	0.2	0.5	100.0	545
Residence									
Urban	40.0	4.8	21.7	27.6	3.4	0.1	2.4	100.0	2,782
Rural	19.8	1.7	32.5	33.4	5.4	0.4	6.9	100.0	2,685
Province									
City of Kigali	45.4	4.6	21.4	23.4	3.2	0.1	1.9	100.0	1,580
Southern Province	20.4	3.3	32.3	26.3	4.5	0.4	12.7	100.0	1,019
Western Province	25.2	3.4	36.4	26.9	3.0	0.3	4.7	100.0	616
Northern Province	20.2	5.8	37.3	27.8	2.6	0.1	6.3	100.0	393
Eastern Province	26.0	1.6	23.7	40.4	6.1	0.2	2.0	100.0	1,860
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	19.9	0.6	31.8	35.2	5.3	0.5	6.6	100.0	894
Second	15.5	1.0	32.9	36.3	6.1	0.3	7.9	100.0	682
Middle	20.6	1.5	34.5	31.3	4.5	0.1	7.5	100.0	730
Fourth	32.1	3.0	28.1	29.5	4.2	0.2	3.0	100.0	1,184
Highest	42.0	6.2	19.4	26.5	3.4	0.1	2.4	100.0	1,976
Total	30.1	3.3	27.0	30.4	4.4	0.2	4.6	100.0	5,467

Note: Respondents who are visitors in the household are excluded from this table. Respondents who stated that they were born outside of Rwanda but also declared that they have always lived in their current place of residence were not asked about the reason for migration and are excluded from this table.

¹ Restricted to respondents who migrated within the last 5 years

Table 3.15.2 Reason for migration: Men

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years who moved to their current place of residence by reason for migration, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Employment	Education/ training	Marriage formation	Family reunification/ other family- related reason	Nonvoluntary displacement	Natural disaster	Other	Total	Number of men
Age									
15–19	27.4	5.3	0.2	59.4	1.6	1.0	5.2	100.0	298
20–24	54.2	8.3	0.3	32.5	0.6	0.3	3.7	100.0	327
25–29	66.3	5.3	0.9	22.4	0.7	0.0	4.3	100.0	343
30–34	66.1	1.5	0.1	29.6	0.0	0.0	2.8	100.0	333
35–39	72.2	1.8	1.6	19.9	0.9	0.3	3.3	100.0	342
40–44	65.8	0.8	0.7	27.0	2.1	0.0	3.5	100.0	283
45–49	62.5	0.6	0.0	32.3	0.8	0.0	3.8	100.0	189
Timing of move to current place of residence									
0–4 years	68.4	5.0	1.1	22.4	1.0	0.4	1.7	100.0	775
5–9 years	67.9	4.3	0.2	24.2	0.2	0.4	2.8	100.0	467
10 years or more	47.1	1.9	0.4	43.3	1.2	0.0	6.2	100.0	873
Type of migration¹									
Urban to urban	64.3	9.3	0.7	21.4	3.2	0.0	1.1	100.0	215
Urban to rural	39.5	3.1	1.2	51.8	1.4	0.0	3.0	100.0	83
Rural to urban	85.0	5.1	1.0	7.5	0.0	0.7	0.7	100.0	275
Rural to rural	62.0	1.1	1.6	31.6	0.0	0.5	3.3	100.0	202
Residence									
Urban	70.0	5.6	0.4	20.8	0.9	0.2	2.2	100.0	1,182
Rural	46.1	1.1	0.9	44.9	1.0	0.3	5.8	100.0	934
Province									
City of Kigali	78.0	5.4	0.3	14.7	0.8	0.0	0.8	100.0	741
Southern Province	41.4	3.6	2.1	49.4	1.7	0.9	0.9	100.0	349
Western Province	55.0	1.2	0.0	39.8	1.0	0.0	3.1	100.0	196
Northern Province	46.1	10.5	2.2	25.9	1.7	0.0	13.6	100.0	140
Eastern Province	52.7	0.9	0.0	39.0	0.5	0.3	6.7	100.0	689
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	42.7	0.5	1.4	49.5	0.0	0.0	5.9	100.0	255
Second	54.5	0.0	1.1	35.8	0.6	0.9	7.1	100.0	217
Middle	50.7	0.4	0.8	41.4	1.4	0.0	5.3	100.0	286
Fourth	68.8	1.5	0.2	26.2	0.9	0.4	2.1	100.0	494
Highest	63.2	7.7	0.4	24.6	1.2	0.1	2.8	100.0	864
Total 15–49	59.5	3.6	0.6	31.4	0.9	0.2	3.8	100.0	2,116
50–59	54.6	0.0	2.9	35.3	1.3	0.4	5.4	100.0	250
Total 15–59	59.0	3.2	0.8	31.8	1.0	0.2	4.0	100.0	2,366

Note: Respondents who are visitors in the household are excluded from this table. Respondents who stated that they were born outside of Rwanda but also declared that they have always lived in their current place of residence were not asked about the reason for migration and are excluded from this table.

¹ Restricted to respondents who migrated within the last 5 years

MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL ACTIVITY

Key Findings

- **Current marital status:** 52% of women and 51% of men aged 15–49 years are currently in a union.
- **Polygyny:** 8% of currently married women report that their husband has multiple wives.
- **Age at first marriage:** The median age at first marriage is 23.3 years among women aged 25–49 years and 26.8 years among men aged 30–49 years.
- **Sexual initiation:** The median age at first sexual intercourse among women aged 25–49 years is 20.6 years, while the median age at first sexual intercourse among men aged 30–49 years is 22.4 years.

Marriage and sexual activity help determine the extent to which women are exposed to the risk of pregnancy; therefore, they are important determinants of fertility levels. The timing and circumstances of marriage and sexual activity, however, also have profound consequences for the lives of both women and men.

4.1 Marital Status

Currently in union

Women and men who report being married or living together with a partner as though married at the time of the survey. In this report, the terms “currently in union” and “currently married” are used interchangeably except where noted.

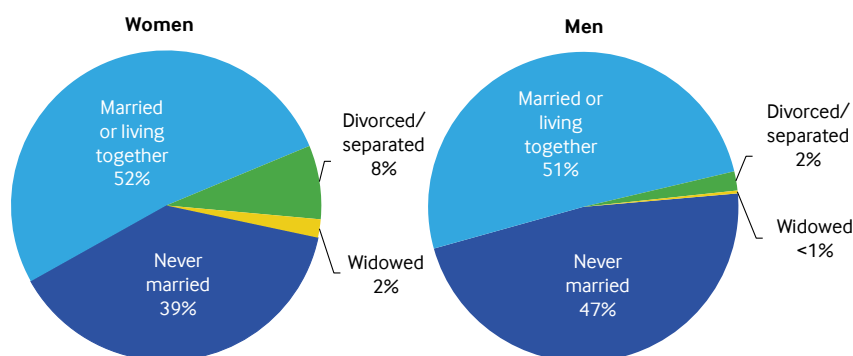
Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

Fifty-two percent of women and 51% of men aged 15–49 years are currently in a union. Thirty-nine percent of women and 47% of men have never been married. Eight percent of women and 2% of men are separated or divorced. Two percent of women are widows and less than 1% of men are widowers (**Figure 4.1** and **Table 4.1**).



Figure 4.1 Marital status

Percent distribution of women and men aged 15–49 years



Trends: The percentage of women aged 15–49 years who are in a union remained fairly stable between 2019–20 and 2025 (51% and 52% among women and 49% and 51% among men).

4.2 Marriage Registration

Registered marriage

A woman whose marriage is registered with the civil authorities regardless of whether or not she has a marriage certificate.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years who are currently in a union

Fifty-eight percent of women aged 15–49 years who are in a union have had their marriage registered with the civil authorities, and 51% possess a marriage certificate (**Table 4.2**).

4.3 Polygyny

Polygyny

Women who report that their husband or partner has other wives are considered to be in a polygynous marriage.

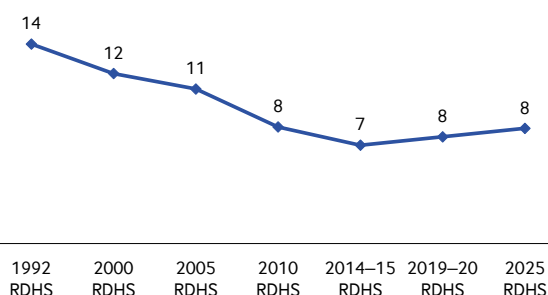
Sample: Currently married women aged 15–49 years

Eight percent of currently married women aged 15–49 years report having one or more co-wives, while 2% of currently married men aged 15–49 years report having two or more wives (**Table 4.3.1** and **Table 4.3.2**). Polygyny varies by province, ranging from 6% in the Northern Province to 10% in the Eastern Province (**Map 4.1**).

Trends: The percentage of currently married women who are in a polygynous union remains unchanged since 2010 (**Figure 4.2**).

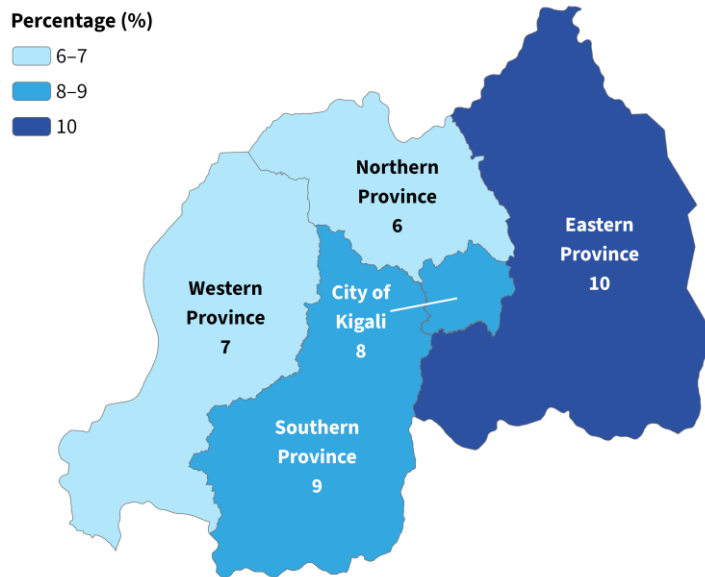
Figure 4.2 Trends in polygyny

Percentage of married women aged 15–49 years in a polygynous union



Map 4.1 Polygyny by province

Percentage of currently married women aged 15–49 years in a polygynous union



4.4 Age at First Marriage

Median age at first marriage

Age by which half of respondents have been married.

Sample: Women aged 20–49, 25–49, and 30–49 years and men aged 20–49, 25–49, 30–49, 20–59, 25–59, and 30–59 years

The median age at first marriage among women aged 25–49 years is 23.3 years (**Table 4.4** and **Table 4.5**). In Rwanda, the legal age of marriage is 21 years; less than 1% of women report that they were first married by age 15. Eight percent of women were first married by age 18, 22% were married by age 20, 39% were married by age 22, and 62% were married by age 25. Among men aged 30–49 years, 17% were married by age 22 and 38% were married by age 25. The median age at first marriage among men aged 30–49 years is 26.8 years.

Trends: The median age at first marriage among women aged 25–49 years increased from 22.8 years in 2019–20 to 23.3 years in 2025. Similarly, the median age at first marriage among men aged 30–49 years increased from 25.6 years in 2019–20 to 26.8 years in 2025.



4.5 Age at First Sexual Intercourse

Median age at first sexual intercourse

Age by which half of respondents have had sexual intercourse.

Sample: Women aged 15–24, 20–49, 25–49, and 30–49 years and men aged 15–24, 20–49, 25–49, 30–49, 20–59, 20–59, 25–59, and 30–59 years

The median age at first sexual intercourse among women aged 25–49 years is 20.6 years, while the median age among men aged 25–49 years is 22.2 years (**Table 4.6** and **Table 4.7**). By age 22, 65% of women and 48% of men aged 25–49 years have had sexual intercourse.

In Rwanda, the median age at first marriage is higher than the median age at first sexual intercourse among both women and men (**Figure 4.3**). Eighty percent of young women and 79% of young men aged 15–19 years have never had sexual intercourse.

Trends: The percentage of women aged 25–49 years who had sexual intercourse by age 18 has not changed since 2019–20 (20%). Among men aged 25–49 years, the percentage has declined from 14% to 12% (**Figure 4.4**).

Figure 4.3 Median age at first sex and first marriage

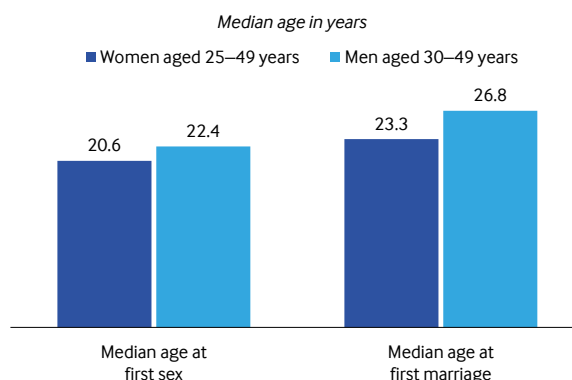
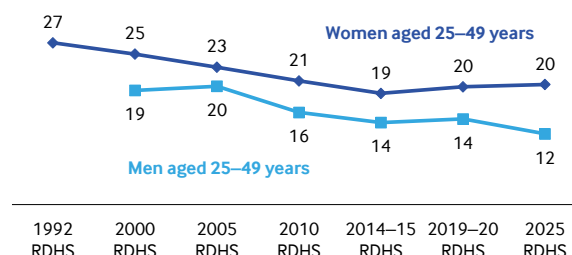


Figure 4.4 Trends in early sexual intercourse

Percentage who had first sexual intercourse by age 18



4.6 Recent Sexual Activity

The survey collected data on recent sexual activity. Overall, half of women and men aged 15–49 years (50% and 51%, respectively) reported having sexual intercourse during the 4 weeks before the survey. Twenty-four percent of women and 26% of men reported that they had never had sexual intercourse. For more information on recent sexual activity, see **Tables 4.8.1** and **4.8.2**.

List of Tables

For more information on marriage and sexual activity, see the following tables:

- **Table 4.1** **Current marital status**
- **Table 4.2** **Marriage registration**
- **Table 4.3.1** **Number of women's co-wives**
- **Table 4.3.2** **Number of men's wives**
- **Table 4.4** **Age at first marriage**
- **Table 4.5** **Median age at first marriage by background characteristics**
- **Table 4.6** **Age at first sexual intercourse**
- **Table 4.7** **Median age at first sexual intercourse according to background characteristics**
- **Table 4.8.1** **Recent sexual activity: Women**
- **Table 4.8.2** **Recent sexual activity: Men**



Table 4.1 Current marital status

Percentage distribution of women and men aged 15–49 years by current marital status, according to age, Rwanda DHS 2025

	Marital status						Percentage of respondents currently in union	Number of respondents	
Age	Never married	Married	Living together	Divorced	Separated	Widowed			Total
WOMEN									
15–19	96.3	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.5	0.0	100.0	3.2	2,897
20–24	62.2	7.1	26.6	1.5	2.4	0.2	100.0	33.7	2,489
25–29	27.2	29.1	34.5	2.5	6.4	0.3	100.0	63.6	2,032
30–34	14.8	41.2	34.7	2.6	5.8	0.8	100.0	75.9	1,879
35–39	7.2	51.4	26.2	5.6	7.3	2.4	100.0	77.5	1,911
40–44	6.5	57.3	18.1	5.4	8.5	4.2	100.0	75.4	1,730
45–49	6.4	57.7	14.8	5.7	6.0	9.5	100.0	72.5	1,344
Total 15–49	38.5	30.0	21.8	2.9	4.8	1.9	100.0	51.9	14,283
MEN									
15–19	99.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.2	1,337
20–24	82.5	2.2	14.8	0.1	0.5	0.0	100.0	17.0	1,019
25–29	44.3	17.7	36.0	0.8	1.2	0.0	100.0	53.7	754
30–34	19.0	41.1	37.9	0.9	1.2	0.0	100.0	79.0	766
35–39	8.9	51.3	35.0	2.1	2.4	0.3	100.0	86.3	779
40–44	5.0	62.2	28.8	1.1	2.4	0.4	100.0	91.0	731
45–49	2.5	71.1	19.9	2.3	2.0	2.1	100.0	91.0	505
Total 15–49	47.1	28.6	22.1	0.8	1.2	0.3	100.0	50.6	5,891
50–59	2.7	73.5	17.8	2.1	1.7	2.1	100.0	91.4	657
Total 15–59	42.6	33.1	21.6	1.0	1.2	0.5	100.0	54.7	6,548



Table 4.2 Marriage registration

Percentage of in-union women aged 15–49 years whose current marriage or union is registered, percentage whose current marriage or union is registered and who have any documentation recognizing the marriage or union, and percentage whose current marriage or union is registered and who have a marriage certificate, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage whose current marriage or union is registered ¹	Percentage whose current marriage or union is registered and who have any documentation recognizing the marriage/union	Percentage whose current marriage is registered and who have a marriage certificate	Number of women in union ¹
Age				
15–19	2.4	1.3	0.0	92
20–24	22.7	19.0	18.6	839
25–29	46.0	41.7	41.5	1,293
30–34	54.9	49.6	48.5	1,427
35–39	66.6	58.2	56.5	1,482
40–44	75.6	64.6	63.9	1,304
45–49	79.7	67.0	65.1	974
Residence				
Urban	53.9	50.3	49.2	2,166
Rural	60.1	51.0	50.0	5,244
Marital status				
Currently married	99.2	86.9	85.2	4,290
Living together	2.1	1.2	1.0	3,119
Province				
City of Kigali	48.5	46.7	46.4	1,030
Southern Province	64.2	51.4	50.7	1,595
Western Province	65.7	59.5	58.9	1,559
Northern Province	66.7	59.2	56.0	1,173
Eastern Province	48.1	41.0	40.3	2,053
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	33.7	24.3	23.9	1,419
Second	54.9	44.1	43.4	1,457
Middle	65.4	56.3	55.0	1,499
Fourth	61.1	55.5	54.0	1,526
Highest	74.7	72.0	70.9	1,509
Total	58.3	50.8	49.8	7,410

¹ Includes women who report that they are currently married or living with a man as if married



Table 4.3.1 Number of women's co-wives

Percentage distribution of currently married women aged 15–49 years by number of co-wives, and percentage of currently married women with one or more co-wives, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Number of co-wives				Total	Percentage with one or more co-wives ¹	Number of women
	0	1	2+	Don't know			
Age							
15–19	97.6	2.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	2.4	92
20–24	95.0	4.0	0.2	0.8	100.0	4.3	839
25–29	92.7	5.2	1.3	0.8	100.0	6.5	1,293
30–34	90.0	7.2	1.3	1.6	100.0	8.5	1,427
35–39	89.0	7.6	1.5	1.9	100.0	9.1	1,482
40–44	87.6	8.4	2.2	1.8	100.0	10.6	1,304
45–49	89.0	8.0	1.7	1.3	100.0	9.7	974
Residence							
Urban	90.9	6.2	1.2	1.7	100.0	7.5	2,166
Rural	90.2	7.1	1.5	1.3	100.0	8.5	5,244
Province							
City of Kigali	91.0	6.3	1.2	1.4	100.0	7.5	1,030
Southern Province	89.2	6.8	2.0	2.0	100.0	8.9	1,595
Western Province	91.9	6.3	0.8	1.0	100.0	7.2	1,559
Northern Province	92.1	4.8	0.7	2.4	100.0	5.5	1,173
Eastern Province	88.9	8.6	1.8	0.7	100.0	10.4	2,053
Education							
No education	86.7	8.7	2.9	1.7	100.0	11.6	603
Primary	88.9	8.1	1.7	1.3	100.0	9.8	4,610
Secondary	94.0	4.1	0.4	1.5	100.0	4.5	1,843
More than secondary	97.1	1.2	0.2	1.5	100.0	1.4	353
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	84.4	11.1	3.3	1.2	100.0	14.4	1,419
Second	88.9	8.4	1.2	1.4	100.0	9.6	1,457
Middle	91.2	6.1	1.3	1.4	100.0	7.4	1,499
Fourth	93.0	4.7	0.6	1.8	100.0	5.3	1,526
Highest	94.0	4.1	0.7	1.2	100.0	4.8	1,509
Total	90.4	6.8	1.4	1.4	100.0	8.2	7,410

¹ Excludes women who responded "don't know" when asked if their husband has other wives



Table 4.3.2 Number of men's wives

Percentage distribution of currently married men aged 15–49 years by number of wives, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Number of wives		Total	Number of men
	1	2+		
Age				
15–19	*	*	100.0	3
20–24	100.0	0.0	100.0	173
25–29	99.0	1.0	100.0	405
30–34	97.8	2.2	100.0	605
35–39	98.0	2.0	100.0	673
40–44	96.7	3.3	100.0	665
45–49	97.7	2.3	100.0	460
Residence				
Urban	97.9	2.1	100.0	910
Rural	97.9	2.1	100.0	2,073
Province				
City of Kigali	98.6	1.4	100.0	470
Southern Province	98.1	1.9	100.0	606
Western Province	97.1	2.9	100.0	622
Northern Province	97.8	2.2	100.0	486
Eastern Province	98.0	2.0	100.0	800
Education				
No education	96.8	3.2	100.0	245
Primary	97.9	2.1	100.0	2,007
Secondary	97.8	2.2	100.0	551
More than secondary	99.6	0.4	100.0	180
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	96.0	4.0	100.0	562
Second	97.3	2.7	100.0	564
Middle	98.5	1.5	100.0	597
Fourth	98.7	1.3	100.0	652
Highest	98.6	1.4	100.0	609
Total 15–49	97.9	2.1	100.0	2,983
50–59	95.0	5.0	100.0	600
Total 15–59	97.4	2.6	100.0	3,584

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 4.4 Age at first marriage

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who were first married by specific exact ages and median age at first marriage, according to current age, Rwanda DHS 2025

	Percentage first married by exact age:					Percentage never married	Number of respondents	Median age at first marriage
Current age	15	18	20	22	25			
WOMEN								
15–19	0.0	na	na	na	na	96.3	2,897	a
20–24	0.1	5.6	18.9	na	na	62.2	2,489	a
25–29	0.9	6.9	18.6	35.3	60.8	27.2	2,032	23.6
30–34	0.3	5.7	18.3	34.3	56.2	14.8	1,879	24.1
35–39	0.7	5.8	17.0	33.7	61.0	7.2	1,911	23.6
40–44	0.8	11.0	25.2	42.5	64.9	6.5	1,730	22.8
45–49	1.0	13.7	33.7	52.6	69.7	6.4	1,344	21.7
20–49	0.6	7.7	21.1	na	na	23.8	11,386	a
25–49	0.7	8.2	21.8	38.8	62.0	13.1	8,897	23.3
30–49	0.7	8.6	22.7	39.8	62.4	8.9	6,864	23.2
MEN								
15–19	0.0	na	na	na	na	99.8	1,337	a
20–24	0.0	0.3	3.9	na	na	82.5	1,019	a
25–29	0.0	0.4	3.1	13.6	36.5	44.3	754	a
30–34	0.0	1.1	5.0	13.7	33.6	19.0	766	26.9
35–39	0.0	1.0	5.1	14.5	37.1	8.9	779	27.0
40–44	0.0	2.6	8.8	17.3	37.1	5.0	731	26.7
45–49	0.0	2.2	10.2	24.4	44.5	2.5	505	26.1
20–49	0.0	1.1	5.7	na	na	31.6	4,554	a
25–49	0.0	1.4	6.1	16.1	37.3	16.9	3,535	a
30–49	0.0	1.7	7.0	16.8	37.5	9.5	2,781	26.8
20–59	0.0	1.2	5.5	na	na	27.9	5,211	a
25–59	0.0	1.5	5.9	15.9	37.6	14.7	4,192	a
30–59	0.0	1.7	6.5	16.4	37.9	8.2	3,438	26.7

Note: The age at first marriage is defined as the age at which the respondent began living with her/his first spouse/partner.

na = Not applicable due to censoring

a = Omitted because less than 50% of the women or men began living with their spouse or partner for the first time before reaching the beginning of the age group



Table 4.5 Median age at first marriage by background characteristics

Median age at first marriage among women aged 25–49 years and women aged 30–49 years, and median age at first marriage among men aged 30–59 years, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women age		Men age 30–59
	25–49	30–49	
Residence			
Urban	24.6	24.5	28.5
Rural	22.8	22.8	25.9
Province			
City of Kigali	a	25.1	29.1
Southern Province	24.0	23.9	27.4
Western Province	22.9	22.7	25.6
Northern Province	22.9	22.9	25.7
Eastern Province	22.3	22.3	25.9
Education			
No education	21.7	21.7	25.0
Primary	22.5	22.6	25.8
Secondary	24.8	25.2	28.8
More than secondary	a	27.6	a
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	22.6	22.8	26.0
Second	22.6	22.6	25.8
Middle	22.6	22.5	25.9
Fourth	23.2	23.0	26.2
Highest	a	25.2	29.0
Total	23.3	23.2	26.7

Note: The age at first marriage is defined as the age at which the respondent began living with her/his first spouse/partner.
a = Omitted because less than 50% of the respondents began living with their spouse/partner for the first time before reaching the beginning of the age group



Table 4.6 Age at first sexual intercourse

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who had first sexual intercourse by specific exact ages, percentage who never had sexual intercourse, and median age at first sexual intercourse, according to current age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Current age	Percentage who had first sexual intercourse by exact age:					Percentage who never had intercourse	Number	Median age at first intercourse
	15	18	20	22	25			
WOMEN								
15–19	4.4	na	na	na	na	80.1	2,897	a
20–24	2.1	19.4	45.1	na	na	33.2	2,489	a
25–29	2.0	19.0	42.2	64.5	84.3	8.2	2,032	20.6
30–34	2.1	18.9	41.6	62.8	80.3	3.9	1,879	20.7
35–39	2.5	17.6	39.1	62.3	83.1	1.2	1,911	20.9
40–44	2.0	21.3	42.6	64.6	81.5	1.2	1,730	20.6
45–49	2.0	26.0	51.5	70.3	84.0	1.3	1,344	19.9
20–49	2.1	20.0	43.4	na	na	9.9	11,386	a
25–49	2.1	20.2	42.9	64.6	82.6	3.4	8,897	20.6
30–49	2.2	20.5	43.1	64.6	82.1	1.9	6,864	20.6
15–24	3.3	na	na	na	na	58.4	5,386	a
MEN								
15–19	8.8	na	na	na	na	79.1	1,337	a
20–24	4.3	19.2	45.1	na	na	35.0	1,019	a
25–29	2.7	14.0	32.2	54.1	78.2	10.8	754	21.5
30–34	3.1	12.9	27.2	48.8	67.9	3.5	766	22.2
35–39	3.0	12.9	27.4	44.3	64.5	1.2	779	22.9
40–44	1.2	9.7	23.6	44.5	62.2	1.2	731	22.7
45–49	0.9	9.2	29.8	51.2	69.3	1.0	505	21.8
20–49	2.7	13.6	31.8	na	na	10.7	4,554	a
25–49	2.3	11.9	28.0	48.4	68.4	3.7	3,535	22.2
30–49	2.2	11.4	26.8	46.9	65.7	1.8	2,781	22.4
15–24	6.8	na	na	na	na	60.0	2,356	a
20–59	2.6	13.4	31.1	na	na	9.4	5,211	a
25–59	2.2	12.0	27.7	48.0	68.2	3.2	4,192	22.3
30–59	2.1	11.6	26.7	46.6	66.1	1.6	3,438	22.4

na = Not applicable due to censoring

a = Omitted because less than 50% of the respondents had sexual intercourse for the first time before reaching the beginning of the age group



Table 4.7 Median age at first sexual intercourse according to background characteristics

Median age at first sexual intercourse among women aged 20–49, 25–49, and 30–49 years, and median age at first sexual intercourse among men aged 25–59 and 30–59 years, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women age			Men age	
	20–49	25–49	30–49	25–59	30–59
Residence					
Urban	a	20.7	20.6	22.0	22.4
Rural	a	20.5	20.6	22.4	22.5
Province					
City of Kigali	a	20.5	20.5	21.8	22.4
Southern Province	a	21.1	21.2	23.6	23.8
Western Province	a	21.0	20.8	21.9	21.9
Northern Province	a	21.0	21.0	22.2	22.2
Eastern Province	19.7	19.8	19.8	21.8	22.1
Education					
No education	19.3	19.3	19.3	21.4	21.5
Primary	a	20.2	20.4	22.0	22.2
Secondary	a	21.5	21.5	22.6	23.2
More than secondary	a	24.3	24.5	a	25.4
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	19.6	19.8	19.8	21.6	21.7
Second	a	20.3	20.3	22.0	22.1
Middle	a	20.6	20.6	22.8	22.9
Fourth	a	20.7	20.6	22.0	22.0
Highest	a	21.6	21.7	22.7	23.1
Total	a	20.6	20.6	22.3	22.4

a = Omitted because less than 50% of the respondents had intercourse for the first time before reaching the beginning of the age group



Table 4.8.1 Recent sexual activity: Women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years by timing of last sexual intercourse, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Timing of last sexual intercourse			Never had sexual intercourse	Total	Number of women
	Within the last 4 weeks	Within 1 year ¹	One or more years			
Age						
15–19	4.9	7.5	7.5	80.1	100.0	2,897
20–24	36.3	15.1	15.4	33.2	100.0	2,489
25–29	62.8	15.6	13.4	8.2	100.0	2,032
30–34	71.6	14.8	9.8	3.9	100.0	1,879
35–39	72.3	13.8	12.7	1.2	100.0	1,911
40–44	70.5	13.0	15.3	1.2	100.0	1,730
45–49	66.1	9.2	23.4	1.3	100.0	1,344
Marital status						
Never married	4.9	14.4	18.1	62.6	100.0	5,505
Married or living together	90.8	7.6	1.6	0.0	100.0	7,410
Divorced/separated/widowed	11.9	32.7	55.4	0.0	100.0	1,369
Duration of current union ²						
<1 year	93.1	6.6	0.0	0.3	100.0	374
1–4 years	92.5	6.9	0.6	0.0	100.0	1,585
5–9 years	91.0	7.6	1.4	0.0	100.0	1,613
10–14 years	90.5	7.5	1.9	0.0	100.0	1,377
15–19 years	89.2	8.8	2.0	0.0	100.0	1,078
20–24 years	89.0	8.8	2.2	0.0	100.0	783
25+ years	89.7	6.3	4.0	0.0	100.0	600
Residence						
Urban	46.8	14.0	14.7	24.5	100.0	4,570
Rural	51.7	11.9	12.4	24.0	100.0	9,713
Province						
City of Kigali	46.3	14.1	16.5	23.1	100.0	2,290
Southern Province	49.1	12.5	14.4	23.9	100.0	3,087
Western Province	50.6	10.3	11.9	27.2	100.0	2,949
Northern Province	53.4	11.3	10.8	24.5	100.0	2,089
Eastern Province	51.0	14.2	12.4	22.4	100.0	3,868
Education						
No education	62.1	12.0	20.4	5.5	100.0	929
Primary	56.5	13.1	13.8	16.5	100.0	7,938
Secondary	37.1	11.7	10.5	40.8	100.0	4,765
More than secondary	49.9	13.8	14.8	21.5	100.0	651
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	52.0	15.3	15.8	16.9	100.0	2,642
Second	51.9	11.4	13.6	23.1	100.0	2,738
Middle	52.7	11.3	11.9	24.1	100.0	2,746
Fourth	51.2	12.4	10.8	25.6	100.0	2,885
Highest	43.9	12.7	13.8	29.6	100.0	3,272
Total	50.1	12.6	13.2	24.1	100.0	14,283

¹ Excludes women who had sexual intercourse within the last 4 weeks

² Excludes women who are not currently married



Table 4.8.2 Recent sexual activity: Men

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years by timing of last sexual intercourse, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Timing of last sexual intercourse			Never had sexual intercourse	Total	Number of men
	Within the last 4 weeks	Within 1 year ¹	One or more years			
Age						
15–19	1.6	4.8	14.5	79.1	100.0	1,337
20–24	21.9	18.1	25.1	35.0	100.0	1,019
25–29	57.2	16.1	15.9	10.8	100.0	754
30–34	77.0	11.7	7.7	3.5	100.0	766
35–39	84.6	8.7	5.5	1.2	100.0	779
40–44	86.6	8.9	3.3	1.2	100.0	731
45–49	84.4	9.6	5.0	1.0	100.0	505
Marital status						
Never married	5.5	15.0	23.8	55.7	100.0	2,772
Married or living together	94.0	5.2	0.7	0.0	100.0	2,983
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.0	51.1	29.0	0.0	100.0	135
Marital duration ²						
<1 year	97.1	2.1	0.8	0.0	100.0	141
1–4 years	94.9	5.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	594
5–9 years	93.1	6.1	0.7	0.0	100.0	665
10–14 years	94.4	5.1	0.5	0.0	100.0	594
15–19 years	93.9	5.1	1.0	0.0	100.0	422
20–24 years	92.0	5.7	2.3	0.0	100.0	249
25+ years	91.3	6.7	2.0	0.0	100.0	119
Married more than once	95.5	4.0	0.5	0.0	100.0	199
Residence						
Urban	48.9	14.7	14.3	22.0	100.0	1,889
Rural	51.5	9.0	11.2	28.2	100.0	4,002
Province						
City of Kigali	46.7	17.2	17.7	18.5	100.0	1,020
Southern Province	45.5	9.4	12.4	32.6	100.0	1,317
Western Province	55.2	9.3	8.0	27.5	100.0	1,100
Northern Province	55.7	8.3	9.0	27.0	100.0	862
Eastern Province	51.6	10.5	13.3	24.7	100.0	1,591
Education						
No education	67.6	10.9	10.4	11.1	100.0	347
Primary	57.4	9.8	10.0	22.8	100.0	3,469
Secondary	32.9	12.4	15.7	39.0	100.0	1,741
More than secondary	55.8	13.9	18.7	11.6	100.0	334
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	55.5	10.8	9.4	24.4	100.0	1,003
Second	54.0	9.7	9.8	26.5	100.0	1,021
Middle	50.8	9.7	9.9	29.7	100.0	1,167
Fourth	51.1	10.3	13.0	25.6	100.0	1,281
Highest	44.3	13.3	17.3	25.1	100.0	1,419
Total 15–49	50.7	10.9	12.2	26.2	100.0	5,891
50–59	82.6	8.7	8.1	0.6	100.0	657
Total 15–59	53.9	10.7	11.8	23.7	100.0	6,548

¹ Excludes men who had sexual intercourse within the last 4 weeks

² Excludes men who are not currently married



Key Findings

- **Total fertility rate:** The total fertility rate for the 3 years preceding the survey is 3.7 children per woman (3.4 in urban areas and 3.9 in rural areas).
- **Birth intervals:** The median birth interval increased from 40.8 months in the 2019–20 RDHS to 48.8 months in the 2025 RDHS. Only 11% of non-first births occur within 2 years after the preceding birth. Eighteen percent of births occur 24–35 months after the previous birth, and 35% occur 5 or more years after.
- **Age at first birth:** The median age at first birth among women aged 25–49 years is 23.2 years, meaning that among women who have given birth, 50% gave birth for the first time before age 23.2.
- **Teenage childbearing:** 8% of women aged 15–19 years have ever been pregnant.
- **Pregnancy outcomes:** 89% of pregnancies ending in the 3 years preceding the survey resulted in live births, 10% resulted in miscarriages, 1% ended in stillbirths, and less than 1% were terminated through induced abortions.

The number of children a woman bears depends on many factors, including the age at which she begins childbearing, the spacing between births, and her fecundity. Delaying the first birth and extending birth intervals have contributed to reducing fertility levels in many countries. These factors also have positive health consequences. In contrast, short birth intervals (defined as less than 24 months) can lead to harmful outcomes for both newborns and their mothers, such as preterm birth, low birth weight, and death. Additionally, childbearing at a very young age is associated with an increased risk of complications during pregnancy and childbirth, as well as increased rates of neonatal mortality.

This chapter describes the current fertility level in Rwanda and some of its proximate determinants. It presents information on the total fertility rate, birth intervals, insusceptibility to pregnancy (resulting from postpartum amenorrhea, postpartum abstinence, or menopause), age at first birth, teenage pregnancy, and induced abortion rates.

5.1 Current Fertility

Total fertility rate

The average number of children a woman would have by the end of her childbearing years if she bore children at the current age-specific fertility rates. Age-specific fertility rates are calculated for the 3 years before the survey, based on detailed pregnancy histories provided by women.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years

The total fertility rate (TFR) in Rwanda is 3.7 children per woman. The age-specific fertility rate in the 15–19 age group is 39 births per 1,000 women; the rate peaks in the 25–29 age group (179 births per 1,000 women) and drops thereafter, to 16 births per 1,000 women in the 45–49 age group. Age-specific fertility rates are lower in urban areas than in rural areas except among women in the 35–39 age group. On average, rural women have 0.5 more children than urban women (3.9 versus 3.4 children) (Table 5.1). At the time of the survey, 5% of women were currently pregnant (Table 5.2).

Trends: Fertility has generally declined across most age groups, most notably among women aged 25–29 years, with births per 1,000 women falling from 254 in the 15–19 years before the survey to 179 in the 0–4 years preceding the survey (Table 5.3.1). Overall, the TFR declined from 6.2 children per woman in the 1992 RDHS to 3.7 in the 2025 RDHS. There has been a similar decline among women in both rural areas (from 6.3 to 3.9) and urban areas (from 4.5 to 3.4) during the same period (Figure 5.1). In the last four RDHS surveys (2010–2025), the age-specific fertility rate has been highest among women aged 25–29 years (Table 5.3.2 and Figure 5.2).

Patterns by background characteristics

- By province, the TFR is highest in the Eastern Province (4.0 children per woman) and lowest in the City of Kigali (3.1 children per woman) (Table 5.2 and Map 5.1).

Figure 5.1 Trends in fertility by residence

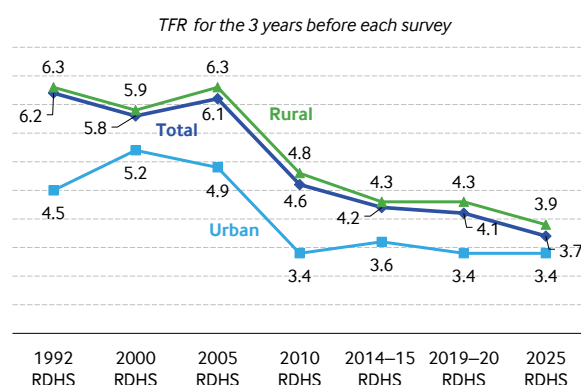
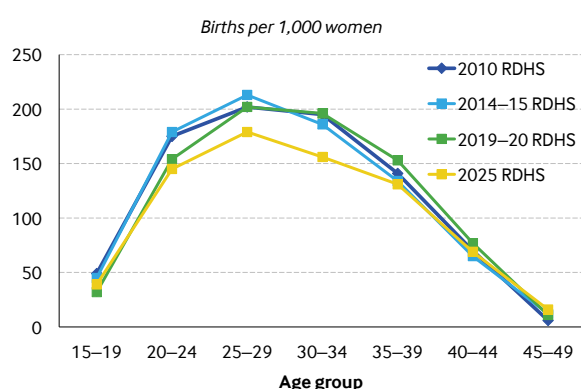
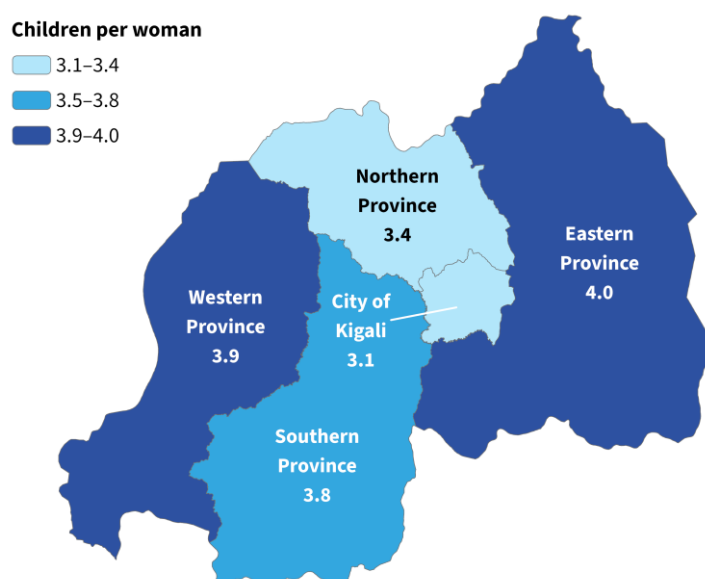


Figure 5.2 Trends in age-specific fertility



Map 5.1 Fertility by province

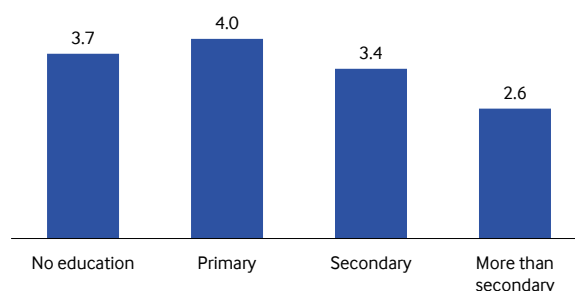
Total fertility rate for the 3 years before the survey



- The TFR is higher among women with a primary education and no education (4.0 children and 3.7 children, respectively) than among women with a secondary education and more than a secondary education (3.4 children and 2.6 children, respectively) (**Figure 5.3**).
- The number of children per woman declines with increasing household wealth. Women who live in households in the lowest wealth quintile have an average of 4.5 children, as compared with 2.9 children among those in the highest quintile.

Figure 5.3 Fertility by education

TFR for the 3 years before the survey



5.2 Children Ever Born and Living

The 2025 RDHS also collected information on the number of children ever born to women aged 15–49 years and those still surviving at the time of the survey. Women have a mean of 2.04 children overall and a mean of 1.91 surviving children (a difference of 0.13). Among married women, the corresponding numbers are 3.11 children and 2.93 surviving children (a difference of 0.18). On average, women aged 45–49 years have given birth to 4.94 children, of whom 4.42 survived to the time of the survey. Of the 5.28 children on average born to currently married women aged 45–49 years, 4.75 survived to the time of the survey. In Rwanda, 1% of currently married women aged 45–49 years have never given birth. Since voluntary childlessness is rare, this is often viewed as a measure of primary sterility (**Table 5.4**).

5.3 Birth Intervals

Median birth interval

Number of months since the preceding birth by which half of children are born.

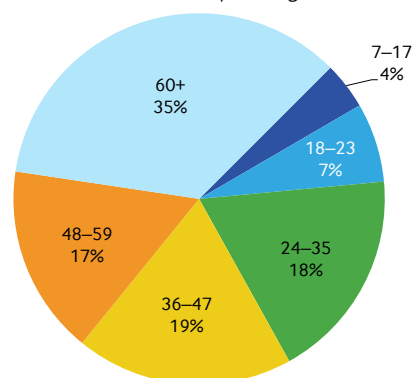
Sample: Non-first births in the 5 years before the survey

Short birth intervals, particularly those of less than 24 months, place newborns and their mothers at increased health risk. The median birth interval in Rwanda is 48.8 months. Only 11% of non-first births occur within 2 years after the preceding birth (**Table 5.5**). Eighteen percent of births occur 24–35 months after the previous birth, and 35% occur 5 or more years after (**Figure 5.4**).

Trends: Median birth intervals have increased since the 1992 RDHS, particularly over the past 10 years. The median intervals were 32.7 months in the 2010 RDHS, 38.5 months in the 2014–15 RDHS, 40.8 months in the 2019–20 RDHS, and 48.8 months in the 2025 RDHS.

Figure 5.4 Birth intervals

Percent distribution of non-first births by number of months since the preceding birth



5.4 Insusceptibility to Pregnancy

Postpartum amenorrhea

The period of time after the end of a pregnancy and before the resumption of menstruation.

Postpartum abstinence

The period of time after the end of a pregnancy and before the resumption of sexual intercourse.

Postpartum insusceptibility

The period of time during which a woman is considered not at risk of pregnancy because she is postpartum amenorrheic and/or abstaining from sexual intercourse postpartum.

Median duration of postpartum amenorrhea

Number of months after the end of a pregnancy by which time half of women have begun menstruating.

Sample: Women who had a live birth or stillbirth in the 3 years before the survey

Median duration of postpartum insusceptibility

Number of months after the end of a pregnancy by which time half of women are no longer protected against pregnancy by either postpartum amenorrhea or abstinence from sexual intercourse.

Sample: Women who had a live birth or stillbirth in the 3 years before the survey

Postpartum amenorrhea refers to the interval between childbirth and the return of menstruation. The duration and intensity of breastfeeding influence the length of amenorrhea, which offers protection against early conception following a preceding birth. Postpartum abstinence refers to the period between childbirth and the time when a woman returns to sexual activity.

Overall, 46% of women who gave birth in the 3 years preceding the survey are insusceptible to pregnancy, either because they are amenorrheic (41%) and/or because they are abstaining from sexual intercourse (12%). Women are amenorrheic for a median of 14.4 months and abstain from sexual intercourse for a median of 1.0 months; the median period of insusceptibility is 16.4 months (**Table 5.6** and **Table 5.7**).

Trends: In Rwanda, the median duration of postpartum amenorrhea declined steadily between the 1992 RDHS and the 2014–15 RDHS, from 16.6 months to 10.5 months, before increasing to 14.1 months in the 2019–20 RDHS and to 14.4 in the 2025 RDHS. The median duration of postpartum insusceptibility has followed a similar pattern, dropping from 17.1 months to 11.8 months between the 1992 RDHS and the 2014–15 RDHS before increasing to 15.6 months in the 2019–20 RDHS and to 16.4 in the 2025 RDHS.

5.5 Age at First Menstruation

The onset of menarche is the beginning of sexual maturity in adolescent girls, marking the start of their first menstrual flow. A look at mean age at menarche across different age groups shows a declining trend over time. The average age at first menstruation among women aged 15–49 years is 14.7 years. One percent of women had their first menstrual flow by age 10 (**Table 5.8**).



5.6 Arrival of Menopause

Menopause

Women are considered to have reached menopause if they are neither pregnant nor postpartum amenorrheic and have not had a menstrual period in the 6 months before the survey, if they report being menopausal or having had a hysterectomy, or if they have never menstruated.

Sample: Women aged 30–49 years

Beyond age 30, women's ability to become pregnant decreases as increasing percentages of women become infecund. Although the onset of infecundity is difficult to determine, one proxy indicator is menopause (**Table 5.9**). Among women aged 30–49 years, 10% are menopausal. The percentage of women who are menopausal increases with age and is highest among women aged 48–49 years (35%).

5.7 Age at First Birth

Median age at first birth

Age by which half of women have had their first child.

Sample: Women aged 20–49 and 25–49 years

The age at which a woman has her first child has an impact on her overall fertility, health, and welfare as well as the health of her child. In Rwanda, the median age at first birth among women aged 25–49 years is 23.2 years (**Table 5.10** and **Table 5.11**). Eight percent of women aged 25–49 years have never had a live birth.

5.8 Teenage Pregnancy

Teenage pregnancy

Percentage of women aged 15–19 years who have ever been pregnant.

Sample: Women aged 15–19 years

In Rwanda, 8% of women aged 15–19 years have ever been pregnant, 6% have had a live birth, and 1% have had a pregnancy loss. Two percent of women aged 15–19 years reported being currently pregnant (**Table 5.12**). Four percent of teenage women had sexual intercourse before age 15 and less than 1% were pregnant before age 15 (**Table 5.13**).

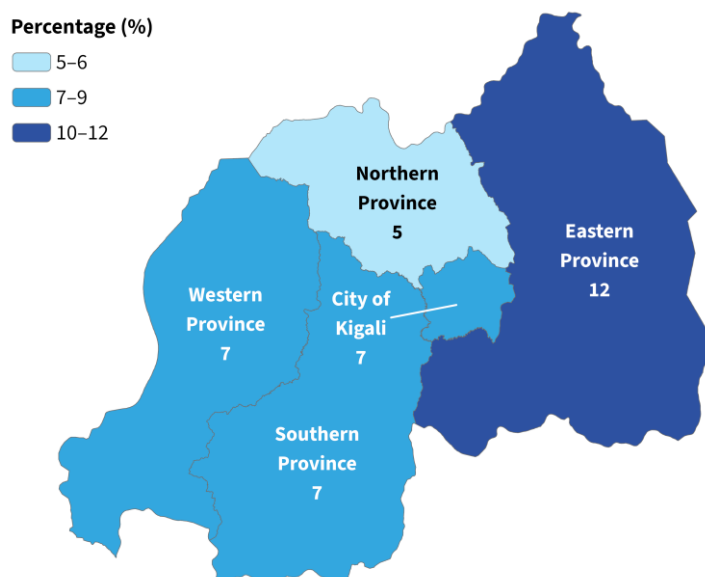


By province, the percentage of women aged 15–19 years who have ever been pregnant ranges from 5% in the Northern Province to 12% in the Eastern Province. Teenagers in the Eastern Province are more likely to start childbearing early than teenagers in other provinces (**Map 5.2**).

Trends: The percentage of teenagers who have ever been pregnant has increased since 2019–20, from 5% to 8%.

Map 5.2 Teenage pregnancy by province

Percentage of women aged 15–19 years who have ever been pregnant

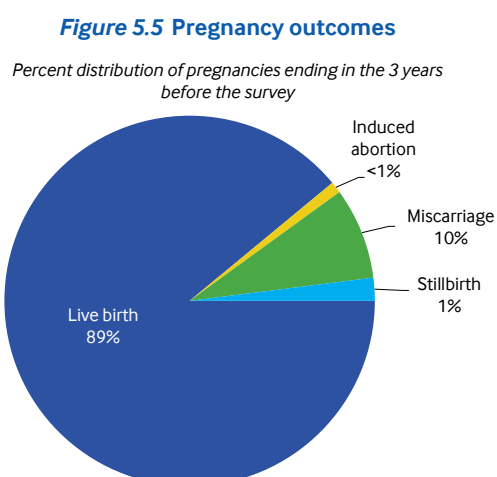


5.9 Pregnancy Outcomes and Induced Abortion Rates

Pregnancy outcomes

Live birth:	a child who was born alive, even if for a very short time
Stillbirth:	a child who was born dead (no signs of life) following a pregnancy that lasted 7 months (28 weeks) or longer
Miscarriage:	a pregnancy that ended involuntarily before completing 7 months (28 weeks)
Induced abortion:	a pregnancy that was voluntarily ended
Sample: Pregnancies among women aged 15–49 years ending in the 3 years preceding the survey	

Among pregnancies that ended in the 3 years preceding the survey, 89% resulted in live births, 1% ended in stillbirths, 10% resulted in miscarriages, and less than 1% led to induced abortions (**Table 5.14** and **Figure 5.5**). **Table 5.15** shows data on induced abortion rates according to residence.



List of Tables

For more information on fertility levels and some of the determinants of fertility, see the following tables:

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- **Table 5.2** Fertility by background characteristics
- **Table 5.3.1** Trends in age-specific fertility rates
- **Table 5.3.2** Trends in age-specific and total fertility rates
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- **Table 5.13** Sexual and reproductive health behaviours before age 15
- **Table 5.14** Pregnancy outcome by background characteristics
- **Table 5.15** Induced abortion rates

Table 5.1 Current fertility

Age-specific and total fertility rates, the general fertility rate, and the crude birth rate for the 3 years preceding the survey, by residence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age group	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
10–14	[0]	[0]	[0]
15–19	30	44	39
20–24	112	165	145
25–29	161	189	179
30–34	146	163	156
35–39	149	124	131
40–44	60	72	69
45–49	[15]	[16]	[16]
TFR (15–49)	3.4	3.9	3.7
GFR	108	122	117
CBR	29.9	26.9	27.7

Note: Age-specific fertility rates are per 1,000 women. Estimates in brackets are truncated. Rates are for the period 1–36 months preceding the interview. Rates for the 10–14 age group are based on retrospective data from women aged 15–17 years.

TFR: Total fertility rate, expressed per woman

GFR: General fertility rate, expressed per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years

CBR: Crude birth rate, expressed per 1,000 population

Table 5.2 Fertility by background characteristics

Total fertility rate for the 3 years preceding the survey, percentage of women aged 15–49 years currently pregnant, and mean number of children ever born to women aged 40–49 years, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Total fertility rate	Percentage of women aged 15–49 years currently pregnant	Mean number of children ever born to women aged 40–49 years
Residence			
Urban	3.4	4.6	4.1
Rural	3.9	5.4	4.7
Province			
City of Kigali	3.1	4.2	3.7
Southern Province	3.8	5.5	4.3
Western Province	3.9	5.8	5.0
Northern Province	3.4	4.3	4.4
Eastern Province	4.0	5.3	4.9
Education			
No education	3.7	4.3	5.0
Primary	4.0	5.3	4.6
Secondary	3.4	5.0	3.7
More than secondary	2.6	4.2	3.0
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	4.5	6.2	4.7
Second	4.0	5.4	4.9
Middle	3.7	5.2	4.7
Fourth	3.6	5.1	4.6
Highest	2.9	4.0	3.8
Total	3.7	5.1	4.6

Note: Total fertility rates are for the period 1–36 months prior to the interview.

Table 5.3.1 Trends in age-specific fertility rates

Age-specific fertility rates for 5-year periods preceding the survey, according to age group, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age group	Number of years preceding survey			
	0–4	5–9	10–14	15–19
10–14	[0]	1	1	0
15–19	41	34	42	32
20–24	149	156	165	183
25–29	179	204	212	254
30–34	162	190	192	[213]
35–39	135	162	[160]	
40–44	66	[95]		
45–49	[17]			

Note: Age-specific fertility rates are per 1,000 women. Estimates in brackets are truncated. Rates exclude the month of the interview. For the 0–4 year period, rates for the 10–14 age group are based on retrospective data from women aged 15–19 years.

Table 5.3.2 Trends in age-specific and total fertility rates

Age-specific and total fertility rates (TFR) for the 3-year period preceding several surveys, according to mother's age at the time of the birth, Rwanda DHS 2025

Mother's age at birth	2000 RDHS	2005 RDHS	2010 RDHS	2014–15 RDHS	2019–20 RDHS	2025 RDHS
15–19	52	42	41	45	32	41
20–24	240	235	189	179	154	149
25–29	272	305	226	213	202	179
30–34	257	273	200	186	196	162
35–39	190	211	148	134	153	135
40–44	123	117	88	65	77	66
45–49	[33]	[32]	[20]	[12]	[11]	[17]
TFR (15–49)	5.8	6.1	4.6	4.2	4.1	3.7

Note: Age-specific fertility rates are per 1,000 women. Rates for the 45–49 age group may be slightly biased due to truncation and are therefore displayed in brackets.

Table 5.4 Children ever born and living

Percentage distribution of all women and currently married women aged 15–49 years by number of children ever born, mean number of children ever born, and mean number of living children, according to age group, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age group	Number of children ever born											Total	Number of women	Mean number of children ever born	Mean number of living children
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+				
ALL WOMEN															
15–19	94.4	5.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	2,897	0.06	0.05
20–24	55.0	37.1	7.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	2,489	0.54	0.51
25–29	18.8	35.2	33.6	9.4	2.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	2,032	1.43	1.38
30–34	8.2	16.0	34.7	25.6	10.8	3.5	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,879	2.30	2.22
35–39	3.7	6.3	18.2	29.2	24.2	11.4	4.4	1.9	0.4	0.2	0.0	100.0	1,911	3.29	3.14
40–44	2.7	4.2	9.3	18.2	23.0	18.6	12.1	5.6	3.8	1.8	0.6	100.0	1,730	4.28	4.01
45–49	3.0	3.2	6.7	12.4	17.1	20.0	14.4	11.0	6.4	2.8	3.0	100.0	1,344	4.94	4.42
Total	33.6	16.3	14.8	12.1	9.4	6.2	3.5	2.0	1.1	0.5	0.4	100.0	14,283	2.04	1.91
CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN															
15–19	52.7	44.9	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	92	0.50	0.46
20–24	14.8	67.5	16.0	1.7	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	839	1.05	1.00
25–29	4.8	35.6	43.1	11.9	3.4	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,293	1.77	1.70
30–34	2.4	13.0	37.6	28.8	12.9	3.9	0.8	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	1,427	2.55	2.45
35–39	1.8	4.1	16.8	31.1	26.4	12.3	4.7	2.2	0.5	0.1	0.0	100.0	1,482	3.47	3.32
40–44	1.1	2.6	7.8	16.7	24.7	19.8	13.4	6.4	4.7	2.1	0.8	100.0	1,304	4.56	4.29
45–49	0.9	1.7	4.4	12.2	17.2	21.4	15.8	12.6	7.3	3.1	3.4	100.0	974	5.28	4.75
Total	4.3	18.4	21.9	18.6	15.0	9.7	5.5	3.3	1.9	0.8	0.6	100.0	7,410	3.11	2.93

Table 5.5 Birth intervals

Percentage distribution of non-first live births in the 5 years preceding the survey by number of months since the preceding live birth, and median number of months since the preceding live birth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Months since preceding live birth						Total	Number of non-first live births	Median number of months since preceding live birth
	7–17	18–23	24–35	36–47	48–59	60+			
Mother's age									
15–19	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	6	*
20–29	7.8	6.9	23.1	25.1	19.3	17.9	100.0	1,151	41.9
30–39	3.3	7.5	18.2	17.7	16.0	37.3	100.0	2,658	50.3
40–49	2.2	5.7	13.9	15.5	14.9	47.8	100.0	1,124	58.0
Sex of preceding birth									
Male	4.1	7.0	19.0	18.7	16.1	35.2	100.0	2,519	48.8
Female	4.2	6.9	17.9	19.1	16.9	35.0	100.0	2,420	48.8
Survival of preceding birth									
Living	3.1	6.7	18.2	19.1	17.0	36.0	100.0	4,715	49.7
Dead	26.1	12.1	23.8	15.3	6.8	15.9	100.0	224	28.0
Birth order									
2–3	4.6	5.7	17.1	20.2	17.6	34.8	100.0	2,876	49.2
4–6	3.2	8.1	19.2	16.6	14.6	38.3	100.0	1,719	50.4
7+	5.2	10.8	25.7	19.8	16.4	22.1	100.0	344	40.5
Residence									
Urban	5.0	8.2	20.2	18.7	14.2	33.8	100.0	1,479	46.6
Rural	3.8	6.4	17.7	19.0	17.5	35.7	100.0	3,459	49.8
Province									
City of Kigali	5.1	8.9	18.2	19.4	11.9	36.5	100.0	693	46.3
Southern Province	4.1	7.3	16.9	18.9	17.2	35.7	100.0	1,071	49.4
Western Province	5.4	7.2	21.5	19.0	17.0	29.9	100.0	1,107	46.3
Northern Province	2.5	4.0	13.7	19.0	19.0	41.7	100.0	656	55.1
Eastern Province	3.5	6.8	19.6	18.6	16.7	34.9	100.0	1,411	48.7
Mother's education									
No education	4.6	4.2	19.1	17.4	16.8	37.9	100.0	400	50.3
Primary	3.3	6.2	18.1	18.5	16.6	37.4	100.0	3,196	50.5
Secondary	6.4	9.0	18.6	20.4	16.2	29.4	100.0	1,117	45.6
More than secondary	4.5	11.2	20.8	20.8	16.5	26.2	100.0	227	43.0
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	2.9	4.9	21.7	20.9	17.5	32.0	100.0	1,120	47.7
Second	2.6	7.8	18.6	19.8	16.7	34.5	100.0	968	48.7
Middle	4.3	6.1	16.0	16.9	19.3	37.4	100.0	970	52.2
Fourth	5.2	8.0	17.8	17.3	14.9	36.8	100.0	972	48.8
Highest	5.9	8.3	17.5	19.3	13.7	35.2	100.0	909	47.1
Total	4.1	6.9	18.4	18.9	16.5	35.1	100.0	4,939	48.8

Note: First-order live births are excluded. The interval for multiple births is the number of months since the preceding pregnancy that ended in a live birth. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 5.6 Postpartum amenorrhea, abstinence, and insusceptibility

Percentage of live births and stillbirths in the 3 years preceding the survey for which mothers are postpartum amenorrheic, abstaining, and insusceptible, by number of months since birth, and median and mean durations, Rwanda DHS 2025

Months since birth	Percentage of births for which the mother is:			Number of births ²
	Amenorrheic	Abstaining	Insusceptible ¹	
<2	94.2	49.0	95.6	229
2–3	71.6	20.2	76.2	236
4–5	74.5	16.8	77.1	274
6–7	69.6	14.7	72.4	247
8–9	59.6	13.5	65.6	266
10–11	58.5	12.1	62.6	240
12–13	54.5	10.3	59.8	258
14–15	46.0	11.8	51.8	240
16–17	45.4	11.1	49.7	260
18–19	37.1	12.8	43.3	222
20–21	31.2	9.1	36.2	217
22–23	21.1	7.5	27.3	240
24–25	18.3	7.0	23.9	239
26–27	18.5	5.6	21.9	229
28–29	11.4	5.3	15.7	229
30–31	8.8	7.0	13.6	233
32–33	11.0	6.2	16.3	240
34–35	4.9	3.3	8.2	245
Total	41.4	12.4	45.9	4,345
Median	14.4	1.0	16.4	na
Mean	15.7	5.5	17.3	na

Note: Estimates are based on status at the time of the survey.

na = Not applicable

¹ Includes live births and stillbirths for which mothers are either still amenorrheic or still abstaining (or both) following birth

² Includes live birth and stillbirths

Table 5.7 Median duration of amenorrhea, postpartum abstinence, and postpartum insusceptibility

Median number of months of postpartum amenorrhea, postpartum abstinence, and postpartum insusceptibility following live births and stillbirths in the 3 years preceding the survey, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Postpartum amenorrhea	Postpartum abstinence	Postpartum insusceptibility ¹
Mother's age			
15–29	14.6	1.2	17.0
30–49	13.9	0.9	15.7
Residence			
Urban	9.8	0.9	11.3
Rural	16.5	1.2	18.3
Province			
City of Kigali	10.4	*	11.9
Southern Province	14.9	1.9	16.3
Western Province	15.9	0.9	16.8
Northern Province	17.7	(0.8)	18.9
Eastern Province	14.4	1.0	16.5
Mother's education			
No education	(18.3)	*	(18.3)
Primary	15.6	1.5	17.4
Secondary	13.2	0.9	15.4
More than secondary	(6.7)	*	(6.7)
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	18.6	0.9	19.4
Second	17.0	(1.4)	19.2
Middle	15.3	(1.4)	16.1
Fourth	10.9	(0.9)	14.6
Highest	7.9	(0.9)	8.4
Total	14.4	1.0	16.4

Note: Medians are based on the status at the time of the survey (current status). Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.
¹ Includes births for which mothers are either still amenorrheic or still abstaining (or both) following birth

Table 5.8 Age at first menstruation

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years by age at menarche, and mean age at menarche, according to current age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Current age	Age at menarche								Percentage who have never menstruated	Total	Number of women	Mean age at menarche	Number of women who have ever menstruated ¹
	<10	11	12	13	14	15	≥16	Don't know					
15–19	0.8	1.4	13.3	16.7	27.9	21.4	12.2	0.2	6.0	100.0	2,897	14.0	2,718
20–24	1.2	1.6	11.1	12.6	20.7	21.3	31.2	0.2	0.1	100.0	2,489	14.6	2,481
25–29	1.1	1.5	10.3	13.0	21.0	21.7	31.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	2,032	14.6	2,027
30–34	0.6	1.0	8.8	9.1	19.1	23.3	37.3	0.6	0.1	100.0	1,879	15.0	1,865
35–39	1.0	0.7	8.6	11.7	22.4	21.0	33.9	0.7	0.1	100.0	1,911	14.9	1,897
40–44	0.5	0.5	7.5	7.3	18.2	21.7	43.7	0.6	0.0	100.0	1,730	15.2	1,719
45–49	0.6	0.5	8.0	8.4	16.6	21.4	43.9	0.7	0.0	100.0	1,344	15.2	1,335
Total	0.9	1.1	10.1	11.9	21.5	21.7	31.2	0.4	1.3	100.0	14,283	14.7	14,043

¹ Number of women who gave a numeric response

Table 5.9 Menopause

Percentage of women aged 30–49 years who are menopausal, according to age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age	Percentage menopausal ¹	Number of women
30–34	5.8	1,879
35–39	6.1	1,911
40–41	8.5	699
42–43	9.2	754
44–45	11.7	604
46–47	17.3	543
48–49	35.0	474
Total	10.0	6,864

¹ Percentage of women (1) who are not pregnant, (2) who have had a birth in the past 5 years and are not postpartum amenorrheic, and (3) for whom one of the following additional conditions apply: (a) their last menstrual period occurred 6 or more months preceding the survey, (b) they declared that they are in menopause or have had a hysterectomy, or (c) they have never menstruated

Table 5.10 Age at first birth

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who had a live birth by exact ages, percentage who have never had a live birth, and median age at first live birth, according to current age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Current age	Percentage who had a live birth by exact age					Percentage who have never had a live birth	Number of women	Median age at first live birth
	15	18	20	22	25			
15–19	0.2	na	na	na	na	94.4	2,897	a
20–24	0.3	4.7	19.4	na	na	55.0	2,489	a
25–29	0.6	5.6	18.8	38.9	67.8	18.8	2,032	23.1
30–34	0.1	4.3	17.7	36.4	63.8	8.2	1,879	23.4
35–39	0.5	3.6	14.3	32.2	65.1	3.7	1,911	23.5
40–44	0.2	5.5	17.4	37.6	65.9	2.7	1,730	23.3
45–49	0.3	6.4	22.6	44.6	69.9	3.0	1,344	22.5
20–49	0.3	4.9	18.2	na	na	18.1	11,386	a
25–49	0.3	5.0	17.9	37.5	66.3	7.8	8,897	23.2

na = Not applicable due to censoring

a = Omitted because less than 50% of women had a birth before reaching the beginning of the age group

Table 5.11 Median age at first birth

Median age at first live birth among women aged 25–49 years, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women aged 25–49 years
Residence	
Urban	23.7
Rural	23.0
Province	
City of Kigali	23.8
Southern Province	23.8
Western Province	23.2
Northern Province	23.1
Eastern Province	22.5
Education	
No education	22.1
Primary	22.7
Secondary	24.4
More than secondary	a
Wealth quintile	
Lowest	22.5
Second	22.8
Middle	22.9
Fourth	23.2
Highest	24.8
Total	23.2

a = Omitted because less than 50% of the women had a birth before reaching the beginning of the age group

Table 5.12 Teenage pregnancy

Percentage of women aged 15–19 years who have ever had a live birth, percentage who have ever had a pregnancy loss, percentage who are currently pregnant, and percentage who have ever been pregnant, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

	Percentage of women aged 15–19 years who:				
Background characteristic	Have ever had a live birth	Have ever had a pregnancy loss ¹	Are currently pregnant	Have ever been pregnant	Number of women
Age					
15	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.8	561
16	1.2	0.0	1.0	2.2	613
17	4.5	0.4	0.9	5.5	575
18	8.1	1.1	4.0	12.3	577
19	14.0	1.6	5.6	19.9	570
Residence					
Urban	4.1	0.5	1.6	5.9	864
Rural	6.3	0.7	2.6	9.0	2,033
Province					
City of Kigali	4.8	0.0	1.8	6.6	395
Southern Province	5.0	0.8	1.8	7.0	643
Western Province	4.7	0.6	1.7	6.6	591
Northern Province	2.5	0.9	1.7	4.7	397
Eastern Province	8.5	0.7	3.6	12.1	870
Education					
No education	(12.4)	(0.0)	(8.9)	(21.3)	28
Primary	8.7	1.1	3.7	12.6	1,347
Secondary	2.7	0.2	1.0	3.8	1,513
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	8
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	11.3	1.2	3.5	14.7	488
Second	5.6	0.9	2.8	9.0	583
Middle	6.9	0.8	3.3	10.3	569
Fourth	3.5	0.3	2.2	5.8	583
Highest	2.3	0.0	0.3	2.6	675
Total	5.6	0.6	2.3	8.1	2,897

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Stillbirth, miscarriage, or abortion

Table 5.13 Sexual and reproductive health behaviours before age 15

Among women and men aged 15–19 years, percentage who had initiated sexual intercourse, were married, and had a live birth/fathered a child before age 15, according to sex, and percentage of women who were pregnant before age 15, Rwanda DHS 2025

Sex	Had sexual intercourse before age 15	Married before age 15	Birtherd/fathered a live birth before age 15	Have ever been pregnant before age 15	Number
Women	4.4	0.0	0.2	0.6	2,897
Men	8.8	0.0	0.0	na	1,337

na = Not applicable

Table 5.14 Pregnancy outcome by background characteristics

Percentage distribution of pregnancies ending in the 3 years preceding the survey by type of outcome, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Pregnancy outcome				Total	Number of pregnancies
	Live birth	Stillbirth ¹	Miscarriage ²	Induced abortion		
Age at pregnancy outcome x						
<20	88.0	1.2	10.7	0.1	100.0	385
20–24	92.0	0.7	6.9	0.4	100.0	1,109
25–34	89.6	1.2	9.1	0.2	100.0	2,140
35–44	86.7	1.0	12.2	0.2	100.0	1,214
45–49	61.2	0.0	38.8	0.0	100.0	65
Pregnancy order						
First	91.7	1.1	7.0	0.2	100.0	1,352
Second	88.9	1.2	9.5	0.4	100.0	1,125
Third	89.1	0.8	9.8	0.2	100.0	850
Fourth	88.5	0.7	10.6	0.2	100.0	631
Fifth or higher	84.9	1.1	14.0	0.0	100.0	955
Residence						
Urban	86.9	0.8	11.9	0.4	100.0	1,530
Rural	89.8	1.1	9.0	0.1	100.0	3,383
Province						
City of Kigali	89.9	1.2	8.2	0.7	100.0	691
Southern Province	88.3	0.6	10.8	0.3	100.0	1,063
Western Province	89.2	1.7	9.1	0.0	100.0	1,059
Northern Province	89.2	0.3	10.4	0.0	100.0	663
Eastern Province	88.5	1.1	10.3	0.2	100.0	1,437
Education						
No education	89.8	1.5	8.7	0.0	100.0	271
Primary	88.9	1.1	9.8	0.2	100.0	2,972
Secondary	88.8	1.0	10.0	0.2	100.0	1,466
More than secondary	88.5	0.0	10.9	0.5	100.0	204
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	89.3	1.4	9.1	0.2	100.0	1,133
Second	89.8	0.7	9.3	0.2	100.0	977
Middle	90.0	1.2	8.6	0.2	100.0	928
Fourth	88.9	1.0	10.0	0.1	100.0	979
Highest	86.2	0.8	12.6	0.4	100.0	896
Total	88.9	1.0	9.9	0.2	100.0	4,913

¹ Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months.

² Miscarriages are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting less than 28 weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, miscarriages are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting less than 7 months.

Table 5.15 Induced abortion rates

Age-specific and total induced abortion rates, and general abortion rates, for the 3 years preceding the survey, according to residence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age group	Residence		Total
	Urban	Rural	
10–14	[0]	[0]	[0]
15–19	0	0	0
20–24	1	1	1
25–29	1	0	0
30–34	0	1	0
35–39	1	0	0
40–44	1	0	0
45–49	[0]	[0]	[0]
TAR (15–49)	0.0	0.0	0.0
GAR	1	0	0

Note: Age-specific induced abortion rates are per 1,000 women. Estimates in brackets are truncated. Rates are for the period 1–36 months preceding the interview. Rates for the 10–14 age group are based on retrospective data from women aged 15–17 years.

TAR: Total induced abortion rate, expressed per woman

GAR: General induced abortion rate, expressed per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years

FERTILITY PREFERENCES

Key Findings

- **Desire for another child:** 13% of currently married women aged 15–49 years want to have another child within 2 years, and 37% want to wait at least 2 years.
- **Limiting childbearing:** 47% of currently married women and 43% of currently married men want no more children or have been sterilized.
- **Ideal family size:** In Rwanda, the ideal number of children among both women and men is 3.2.
- **Unwanted births:** Of all births in the past 3 years and current pregnancies, 67% were wanted at the time of conception, 24% were mistimed, and 9% were unwanted.
- **Wanted births:** The wanted fertility rate is 2.8, while the total fertility rate (TFR) is 3.7. This suggests that Rwandan women are having, on average, 0.9 more children than they want.

Information on fertility preferences can assist family planning programme planners in assessing the desire for children, the prevalence of mistimed and unwanted pregnancies, and the demand for contraception to space or limit births. Furthermore, this information can indicate the future direction of fertility patterns.

This chapter presents information on whether and when married women and men want more children, their ideal family size, whether the last birth was wanted, and the theoretical fertility rate assuming all unwanted births had been prevented.

6.1 Desire for Another Child

Desire for another child

Women and men were asked whether they wanted more children and, if so, how long they would prefer to wait before the birth of the next child. Women and men who have been sterilized are assumed not to want any more children.

Sample: Currently married women and men aged 15–49 years

The survey findings indicate a considerable desire among married Rwandans to regulate the timing and number of births. Specifically, among currently married women aged 15–49 years, 47% do not desire another child or are sterilized, 37% wish to wait for 2 or more years before their next birth, and 13% desire another child within 2 years (**Table 6.1**). Similarly, 43% of currently married men aged 15–49 years do not desire another child or are sterilized, 43% wish to wait 2 or more years before their next birth, and 13% desire another child within 2 years.

The percentage of both women and men who desire to have a child soon is inversely associated with the number of living children. Among currently married women with no living children, over 9 in 10 (91%) want a child soon, as compared with only 2% of women with six or more children. Among currently married men, 64% of those with no living children want a child soon, compared with 2% of those with six or more children.

The desire to limit childbearing increases with the number of living children, rising from less than 1% among married women with no living children to 90% among those with six or more living children (**Figure 6.1** and **Table 6.2.1**). Fourteen percent of married men aged 15–49 with no living children want no more children. The percentage of married men who want no more children increases from 4% among those with one living child to 90% among those with six or more living children (**Table 6.2.2**).

Trends: Among currently married women with three or four living children, the percentage with no further desire for children has remained largely unchanged since the 2010 RDHS. Among women with two living children, the percentage with no further desire for children decreased from 28% in the 2019–20 RDHS to 23% in the 2025 RDHS (**Figure 6.2**).

Figure 6.1 Desire to limit childbearing by number of living children

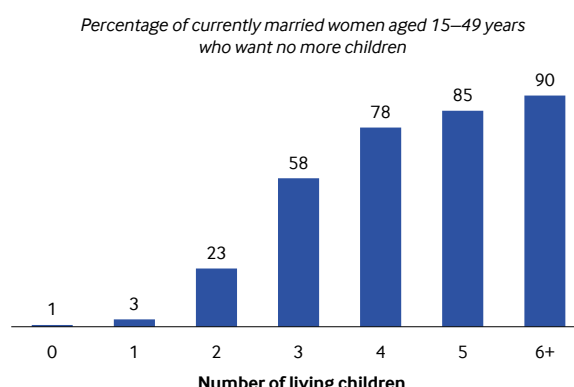
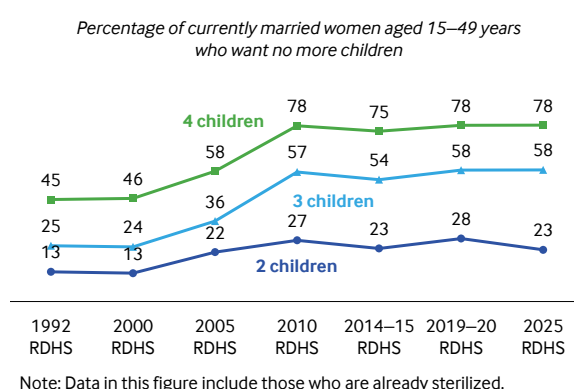


Figure 6.2 Trends in desire to limit childbearing by number of living children



6.2 Ideal Family Size

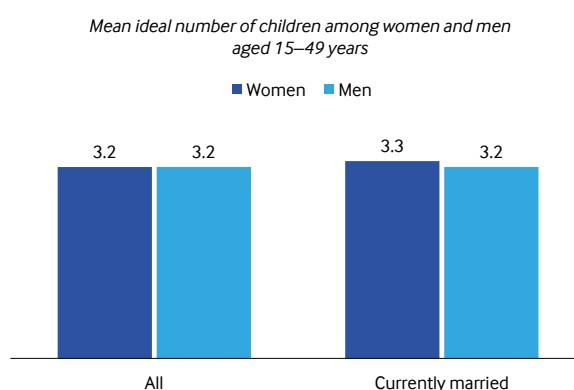
Ideal family size

Respondents with no children were asked “If you could choose exactly the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would that be?” Respondents who had children were asked “If you could go back to the time when you did not have any children and could choose exactly the number of children to have in your whole life, how many would that be?”

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

In Rwanda, the mean ideal number of children is 3.2 among all women and 3.3 among currently married women. Similarly, the ideal number of children is 3.2 among all men and currently married men (**Table 6.3** and **Figure 6.3**). Among all women with no children, the mean ideal number of children is 3.2. The mean ideal number of children increases from 2.9 among those with one child to 3.9 among those with six or more children. A similar pattern is observed among men (**Table 6.3**). Variation in the mean ideal number of children among women according to background characteristics is shown in **Table 6.4**.

Figure 6.3 Ideal family size



Trends: The mean ideal number of children among currently married women dropped from 3.7 in 2019–20 to 3.3 in 2025.

6.3 Fertility Planning Status

Planning status of births/pregnancies

Women reported whether their births or pregnancies were wanted at the time (planned birth), at a later time (mistimed birth), or not at all (unwanted birth).

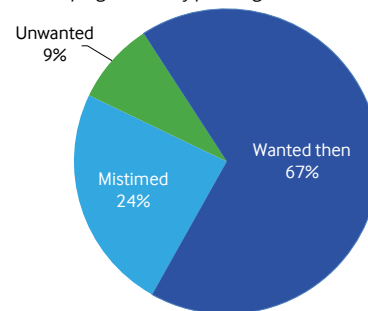
Sample: Current pregnancies and live births in the 3 years preceding the survey among women aged 15–49 years and all pregnancy outcomes in the 3 years before the survey among women aged 15–49 years

Sixty-seven percent of live births and current pregnancies occurring in the 3 years preceding the survey were wanted at the time of conception, 24% were mistimed (wanted later), and 9% were not wanted at all (**Figure 6.4** and **Table 6.5**).

Trends: The percentage of live births and current pregnancies occurring in the 3 years preceding the survey that were reported as wanted at the time of conception increased from 58% in the 2019–20 RDHS to 67% in the 2025 RDHS.

Figure 6.4 Fertility planning status

Percentage distribution of births to women aged 15–49 years in the 3 years before the survey (including current pregnancies) by planning status of births



6.4 Wanted Fertility Rates

Unwanted birth

Any birth in excess of the number of children a woman reported as her ideal number.

Wanted birth

Any birth less than or equal to the number of children a woman reported as her ideal number.

Wanted fertility rate

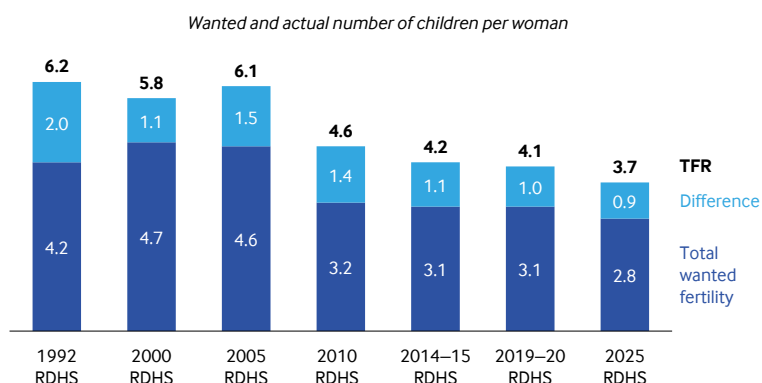
The average number of children a woman would have by the end of her childbearing years if she bore children at the current age-specific fertility rates, excluding unwanted births.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years

The wanted fertility rate represents the fertility level that would have prevailed if all unwanted births were prevented. The total wanted fertility rate is 2.8 children per woman, while the actual total fertility rate is 3.7 children per woman, indicating that women are having, on average, 0.9 more children than they want (**Table 6.6**).

Trends: Both the total and wanted fertility rates have declined steadily since the 2005 RDHS. Meanwhile, the gap between wanted and actual fertility decreased from 1.5 children per women in the 2005 RDHS to 1.1 children per women in the 2014–15 RDHS and has remained relatively constant over the past three surveys (Figure 6.5).

Figure 6.5 Trends in wanted and actual fertility



List of Tables

For more information on fertility preferences, see the following tables:

- **Table 6.1** Fertility preferences according to number of living children
- **Table 6.2.1** Desire to limit childbearing: Women
- **Table 6.2.2** Desire to limit childbearing: Men
- **Table 6.3** Ideal number of children according to number of living children
- **Table 6.4** Mean ideal number of children according to background characteristics
- **Table 6.5** Fertility planning status
- **Table 6.6** Wanted fertility rates

Table 6.1 Fertility preferences according to number of living children

Percentage distribution of currently married women and currently married men aged 15–49 years by desire for children, according to number of living children, Rwanda DHS 2025

Desire for children	Number of living children							Total 15–49	Total 15–59
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+		
WOMEN ¹									
Have another soon ²	91.2	22.8	14.1	8.8	4.7	3.3	1.6	13.2	na
Have another later ³	2.3	73.4	60.8	29.4	12.5	5.9	2.8	36.8	na
Have another, undecided when	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	na
Undecided	1.7	0.3	1.3	2.4	2.7	2.2	2.1	1.7	na
Want no more	0.0	2.9	22.5	56.7	72.9	78.3	82.9	44.0	na
Sterilized ⁴	0.7	0.1	0.3	1.4	5.0	6.2	7.4	2.5	na
Declared infecund	4.1	0.3	0.9	1.2	2.1	4.0	3.0	1.6	na
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	na
Number	215	1,364	1,780	1,461	1,178	712	698	7,410	na
MEN ⁵									
Have another soon ²	63.7	19.2	12.9	8.6	4.6	5.2	1.8	13.1	11.8
Have another later ³	20.9	76.6	63.1	36.8	20.3	12.2	7.8	42.5	35.9
Have another, undecided when	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1
Undecided	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.3	1.4	1.0	0.0	0.6	0.5
Want no more	14.3	4.1	22.4	53.8	71.9	80.4	87.5	42.8	50.1
Sterilized ⁴	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.7	0.8	1.9	0.5	0.5
Declared infecund	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.7	0.3	1.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	162	571	699	577	453	245	275	2,983	3,584

na = Not applicable

¹ The number of living children includes a woman's current pregnancy.

² Wants next birth within 2 years

³ Wants to delay next birth for 2 or more years

⁴ Includes both female and male sterilization

⁵ The number of living children includes one additional child if the respondent's wife is pregnant (or if any wife is pregnant for men with more than one current wife).

Table 6.2.1 Desire to limit childbearing: Women

Percentage of currently married women aged 15–49 years who want no more children by number of living children, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Number of living children ¹							Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	
Residence								
Urban	1.5	4.3	24.8	58.6	73.3	83.0	86.7	41.8
Rural	0.0	2.3	21.8	57.8	79.4	85.0	91.3	48.5
Province								
City of Kigali	(1.7)	4.3	24.0	68.7	69.9	77.3	(77.2)	41.1
Southern Province	(0.0)	2.9	28.9	62.0	84.5	91.0	94.6	52.4
Western Province	(0.0)	1.7	16.0	46.9	73.7	81.5	85.9	45.0
Northern Province	(0.0)	3.4	26.7	58.6	77.5	86.6	98.2	46.5
Eastern Province	0.7	2.8	19.8	55.6	79.0	83.4	92.3	45.8
Education								
No education	*	(7.4)	32.4	61.3	70.5	83.2	87.6	65.4
Primary	0.4	2.7	21.4	58.3	79.3	85.8	91.1	51.5
Secondary	0.0	2.7	22.9	56.0	72.2	79.4	(88.6)	28.9
More than secondary	*	4.7	26.7	58.6	(89.7)	*	*	41.0
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	(0.0)	4.5	26.1	57.1	81.5	89.3	93.0	46.9
Second	(0.0)	2.4	22.3	63.6	78.1	84.9	90.0	50.2
Middle	(0.0)	1.6	19.9	54.8	80.2	86.3	86.5	47.3
Fourth	(0.9)	2.6	24.0	58.1	77.4	80.0	93.0	46.6
Highest	1.5	3.1	21.9	56.8	72.3	81.4	89.0	41.7
Total	0.7	2.9	22.8	58.1	77.9	84.6	90.4	46.5

Note: Women who have been sterilized are considered to want no more children. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ The number of living children includes a woman's current pregnancy.

Table 6.2.2 Desire to limit childbearing: Men

Percentage of currently married men aged 15–49 year who want no more children by number of living children, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Number of living children ¹							Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	
Residence								
Urban	10.7	3.4	21.3	49.2	75.9	70.5	86.3	37.4
Rural	16.2	4.5	23.1	56.0	72.7	84.9	90.3	45.9
Province								
City of Kigali	*	5.0	26.2	52.2	(80.9)	(71.9)	*	40.3
Southern Province	(30.7)	3.1	22.3	59.2	80.5	(86.6)	94.3	48.1
Western Province	*	4.9	27.4	44.9	65.5	76.0	84.5	44.9
Northern Province	*	3.1	20.9	57.4	72.1	(88.4)	(94.8)	40.9
Eastern Province	18.7	4.3	18.3	54.6	72.1	82.2	87.3	41.8
Education								
No education	*	*	(26.7)	(56.7)	78.8	(87.7)	(88.1)	64.1
Primary	14.1	4.3	22.6	53.2	72.5	81.6	90.4	45.5
Secondary	(5.0)	1.4	23.2	56.7	75.4	*	*	29.4
More than secondary	*	(7.6)	16.8	50.7	(70.7)	*	*	33.8
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	(19.8)	4.6	23.9	53.7	73.5	(81.6)	97.5	41.2
Second	(13.6)	5.6	20.8	51.7	70.4	(85.8)	89.3	44.2
Middle	*	3.9	23.2	54.7	75.7	88.4	87.0	46.0
Fourth	(10.4)	2.7	26.4	56.6	66.7	(85.4)	84.5	44.1
Highest	(16.8)	3.7	18.4	52.2	82.6	(59.7)	(91.3)	41.1
Total 15–49	14.3	4.1	22.5	53.8	73.6	81.2	89.5	43.3
50–59	*	*	(66.4)	78.8	91.2	88.6	90.2	86.4
Total 15–59	19.3	4.6	24.1	56.4	77.6	83.5	89.8	50.6

Note: Men who have been sterilized or who state in response to the question about desire for children that their wife has been sterilized are considered to want no more children. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ The number of living children includes one additional child if the respondent's wife is pregnant (or if any wife is pregnant for men with more than one current wife).

Table 6.3 Ideal number of children according to number of living children

Percentage distribution of women and men aged 15–49 years by ideal number of children, and mean ideal number of children for all respondents and for currently married respondents, according to the number of living children, Rwanda DHS 2025

Ideal number of children	Number of living children							Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	
WOMEN ¹								
0	0.8	0.7	1.1	1.2	2.0	1.7	2.2	1.1
1	0.9	2.6	2.9	4.9	2.7	3.4	1.6	2.4
2	24.0	30.5	23.3	18.2	24.1	20.3	17.7	23.7
3	40.4	45.2	39.5	33.7	18.1	26.1	23.9	36.2
4	24.8	17.1	29.1	34.6	37.8	21.2	27.4	26.6
5	6.0	2.7	2.5	5.2	8.6	13.1	8.4	5.6
6+	2.4	1.0	1.3	1.8	6.2	12.2	16.3	3.7
Non-numeric responses	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	1.9	2.6	0.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,646	2,404	2,313	1,819	1,417	863	822	14,283
Mean ideal number of children for women 15–49: ²								
All women	3.2	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.9	3.2
Number of women	4,610	2,396	2,305	1,812	1,410	847	801	14,180
Currently married women	3.4	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.7	4.0	3.3
Number of currently married women	208	1,360	1,776	1,454	1,174	696	677	7,346
MEN ³								
0	0.7	0.6	1.6	2.7	4.1	4.9	8.7	1.8
1	1.7	2.1	1.7	2.4	2.0	1.3	1.5	1.8
2	24.1	32.7	18.9	18.0	19.1	22.6	18.3	23.1
3	41.0	46.6	49.5	38.5	25.8	32.8	26.3	40.3
4	23.2	15.8	24.5	31.9	33.4	21.9	26.9	24.3
5	6.5	1.3	2.2	4.0	10.5	8.9	6.5	5.5
6+	2.6	0.9	1.1	2.5	4.9	5.9	11.1	2.9
Non-numeric responses	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.1	1.6	0.7	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,811	716	756	607	467	253	281	5,891
Mean ideal number of children for men 15–49: ²								
All men	3.2	2.8	3.1	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.2
Number of men	2,805	716	752	607	466	249	279	5,874
Currently married men	3.2	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.2
Number of currently married men	161	571	695	577	453	241	273	2,972
Mean ideal number of children for men 15–59: ²								
All men	3.2	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.4	3.1
Number of men	2,837	732	782	677	604	368	529	6,529
Currently married men	3.1	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.4	3.1
Number of currently married men	176	581	720	644	585	353	511	3,570

¹ The number of living children includes the current pregnancy for women.

² Means are calculated excluding respondents who gave non-numeric responses.

³ The number of living children includes one additional child if the respondent's wife is pregnant (or if any wife is pregnant for men with more than one current wife).



Table 6.4 Mean ideal number of children according to background characteristics

Mean ideal number of children for all women aged 15–49 years, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Mean	Number of women ¹
Age		
15–19	3.2	2,882
20–24	3.0	2,486
25–29	3.1	2,017
30–34	3.1	1,870
35–39	3.3	1,895
40–44	3.4	1,708
45–49	3.6	1,321
Residence		
Urban	3.2	4,531
Rural	3.2	9,650
Province		
City of Kigali	3.0	2,266
Southern Province	3.1	3,079
Western Province	3.5	2,930
Northern Province	3.1	2,078
Eastern Province	3.2	3,828
Education		
No education	3.3	916
Primary	3.3	7,875
Secondary	3.1	4,739
More than secondary	3.2	651
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	3.1	2,626
Second	3.2	2,712
Middle	3.2	2,730
Fourth	3.2	2,861
Highest	3.3	3,251
Total	3.2	14,180

¹ Number of women who gave a numeric response

Table 6.5 Fertility planning status

Percentage distribution of live births and current pregnancies among women aged 15–49 years in the 3 years preceding the survey by planning status of the pregnancy, according to birth order and mother's age at birth; and percentage distribution of all pregnancy outcomes among women aged 15–49 years in the 3 years preceding the survey by planning status of the pregnancy, according to type of pregnancy outcome, Rwanda DHS 2025

Characteristic	Planning status of pregnancy outcome			Total	Number of pregnancy outcomes ¹
	Wanted then	Wanted later	Wanted no more		
LIVE BIRTHS AND CURRENT PREGNANCIES					
Birth order					
1	70.2	27.0	2.8	100.0	1,581
2	73.5	24.7	1.8	100.0	1,261
3	71.6	22.9	5.5	100.0	841
4+	56.0	20.8	23.2	100.0	1,415
Mother's age at birth ²					
<20	44.6	50.2	5.2	100.0	401
20–24	69.9	28.1	1.9	100.0	1,167
25–29	75.0	21.7	3.2	100.0	1,198
30–34	70.1	22.0	7.9	100.0	1,045
35–39	64.0	20.0	15.9	100.0	846
40–44	60.4	9.0	30.6	100.0	393
45–49	(55.1)	(2.4)	(42.5)	100.0	49
Total	67.3	24.0	8.7	100.0	5,098
ALL PREGNANCY OUTCOMES					
Pregnancy outcome type					
Current pregnancies	63.7	24.5	11.8	100.0	731
Live births	67.9	24.0	8.1	100.0	4,368
Stillbirths	(71.7)	(21.4)	(6.9)	100.0	50
Miscarriages	65.9	20.9	13.2	100.0	485
Abortions	*	*	*	100.0	11
Total	67.2	23.7	9.0	100.0	5,644

Note: Pregnancy outcome refers to a miscarriage, abortion, live birth, or stillbirth. Some pregnancies produce multiple outcomes, for example in the case of twins. In this table, each pregnancy outcome is counted individually. Therefore, a pregnancy is counted more than once if it produces multiple births (live births or stillbirths). Current pregnancies, miscarriages, and abortions are always counted as one pregnancy outcome. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ For pregnancies that resulted in multiple outcomes (for example, twins), each outcome is counted individually.

² For current pregnancies, the maternal age at birth is estimated as the mother's expected age at the time of the birth.



Table 6.6 Wanted fertility rates

Total wanted fertility rates and total fertility rates for the 3 years preceding the survey, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Total wanted fertility rate	Total fertility rate
Residence		
Urban	2.6	3.4
Rural	2.9	3.9
Province		
City of Kigali	2.3	3.1
Southern Province	2.8	3.8
Western Province	2.9	3.9
Northern Province	2.7	3.4
Eastern Province	3.1	4.0
Education		
No education	2.6	3.7
Primary	3.0	4.0
Secondary	2.8	3.4
More than secondary	2.3	2.6
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	3.2	4.5
Second	3.0	4.0
Middle	2.9	3.7
Fourth	2.8	3.6
Highest	2.4	2.9
Total	2.8	3.7

Note: Rates are calculated based on births to women age 15–49 in the period 1–36 months preceding the survey. The total fertility rates are the same as those presented in Table 5.2.

Key Findings

- **Contraceptive knowledge:** Knowledge of at least one method (traditional or modern) of contraception is nearly universal among both women and men.
- **Contraceptive use:** 69% of currently married women are using a method of contraception; 64% are using a modern method, and 5% are using a traditional method. Among sexually active unmarried women, 54% are using a method of contraception and 52% are using a modern method.
- **Source of modern contraceptives:** The government sector remains the major source of contraceptive methods in Rwanda, providing methods to 91% of users.
- **Discontinuation of contraceptives:** The primary reasons for discontinuing a contraceptive method were the desire to become pregnant (32%), side effects or health concerns (28%), and the desire for a more effective method (15%).

Couples can use contraceptive methods to limit or space the number of children they have. This chapter presents information regarding the use and sources of contraceptive methods, informed choice of methods, and rates and reasons for contraceptive discontinuation. It also examines the potential demand for family planning and the extent of contact that nonusers have with family planning providers.

7.1 Contraceptive Knowledge and Use

Acquiring knowledge about contraceptive methods is an important step towards gaining access to family planning services and adopting an appropriate contraceptive method. The ability to recognize a family planning method when it is described serves as a simple test of respondents' knowledge of that method; however, it does not necessarily indicate the depth of their knowledge.

Knowledge of at least one contraceptive method (whether traditional or modern) is nearly universal among women and men aged 15–49 years in Rwanda (**Tables 7.1** and **7.2**).

Modern methods are more widely known (99% of women and men) than traditional methods (94% of women and 89% of men). Overall, knowledge of contraceptive methods is slightly higher among women than among men; women know an average of 11.2 contraceptive methods, as compared with 10.4 among men.

Nearly all currently married and sexually active unmarried women and men know about a modern method. Knowledge of traditional methods is higher among currently married men (97%) than among sexually active unmarried men (88%).

The least known modern method among women and men is emergency contraception (71% and 66%, respectively), while the most widely known modern method among both women and men is the male condom (98% each).



Contraceptive prevalence

Percentage of women who use any contraceptive method.

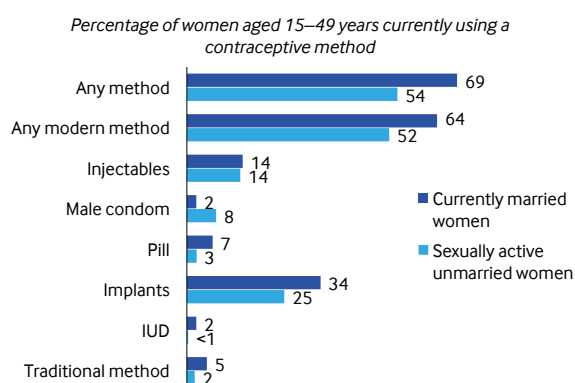
Sample: All women aged 15–49 years, currently married women aged 15–49 years, and sexually active unmarried women aged 15–49 years

Modern methods

Include male and female sterilization, intrauterine devices (IUDs), injectables, implants, contraceptive pills, male and female condoms, emergency contraception, the standard days method, and the lactational amenorrhoea method.

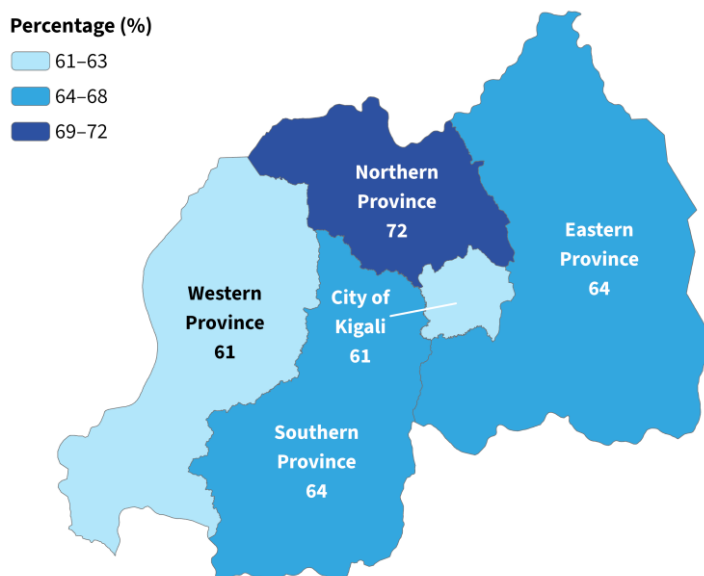
Sixty-nine percent of currently married women and 54% of sexually active unmarried women are using a method of contraception (**Table 7.3** and **Figure 7.1**). In both groups, modern methods are more commonly used than traditional methods (64% and 5%, respectively, among married women and 52% and 2% among sexually active unmarried women). Modern contraceptive use varies considerably by province, ranging from 61% in the City of Kigali to 72% in the Northern Province (**Table 7.4.2** and **Map 7.1**).

Figure 7.1 Contraceptive use



Map 7.1 Modern contraceptive use by province

Percentage of currently married women aged 15–49 years using a modern contraceptive method



Trends: Data from eight DHS surveys conducted in Rwanda since 1992 indicate that use of modern contraceptives has been increasing among currently married women over time, especially since the 2000 RDHS (**Table 7.4.1** and **Figure 7.2**).

Timing of Female Sterilization

Given the importance of female sterilization as a means of preventing unwanted pregnancies among women in high-risk groups, the Rwandan family planning programme targets timely intervention. Overall, 2% of women are sterilized (**Table 7.3**). The median age at sterilization is 35.9 years (**Table 7.5**).

Use of DMPA-SC/Sayana Press

Subcutaneous depot medroxyprogesterone acetate (DMPA-SC) was introduced in Rwanda in 2018 for both provider-administered injections and self-injections.

The use of DMPA-SC/Sayana Press accounts for 29% of current injectable contraceptive use. Among DMPA-SC users, nearly all receive provider-administered injections, while less than 1% choose self-injections (**Table 7.6**).

7.1.1 Use of Emergency Contraception

Emergency contraception is defined as the use of any medicine or device after unprotected sexual intercourse to prevent an unintended pregnancy. According to national policies and service protocols, emergency contraception should be used only in “emergencies” and not as a regular family planning method. Indications for its use include unprotected sexual intercourse occurring within the previous 120 hours, sexual assault when the victim is not regularly taking effective contraceptives, and contraceptive failure such as condom breakage, missed oral contraceptive pills, or lateness for scheduled injectables.

Table 7.7 shows that 3% of women aged 15–49 years used emergency contraception during the 12 months preceding the interview. Use of emergency contraception is most prevalent in the City of Kigali and among women with more than a secondary education.

7.1.2 Knowledge of the Fertile Period

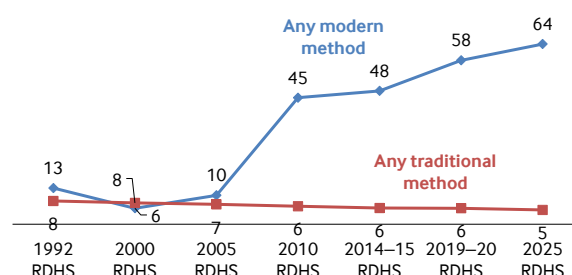
Basic knowledge of reproductive physiology provides a useful background for the successful practice of methods based on fertility awareness (for example, the rhythm method and the standard days method). Among women using family planning, knowledge of the fertile period is also important for the appropriate use of emergency contraception in the event of unprotected sexual intercourse or method failure.

Effective use of the rhythm method requires accurate knowledge of the fertile period. Forty-four percent each of women using the rhythm method and the standard days method (SDM) incorrectly perceived the fertile period as occurring after a woman’s menstrual period has ended. Only 26% of rhythm method users and 29% of SDM users correctly perceived the fertile period as occurring halfway between two menstrual periods (**Table 7.8**).

Overall, only about one in four women (24%) correctly perceived the fertile period as occurring halfway between two menstrual periods (**Table 7.9**).

Figure 7.2 Trends in contraceptive use

Percentage of currently married women currently using a contraceptive method



7.2 Source of Modern Contraceptive Methods

Source of modern contraceptives

The place where the modern method currently being used was obtained the last time it was acquired.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years currently using a modern contraceptive method

Information regarding the main sources of contraception is important for programme managers and implementers who design service delivery strategies, as well as for monitoring, evaluation, and demographic forecasting.

The public sector remains the major source of contraceptive methods in Rwanda, providing methods to 91% of current contraceptive users (**Table 7.10** and **Figure 7.3**). Within the public sector, the main sources are government health centres (67%) and provincial or district hospitals (13%).

Only 6% of users obtain their methods from the private medical sector and 3% from other sources.

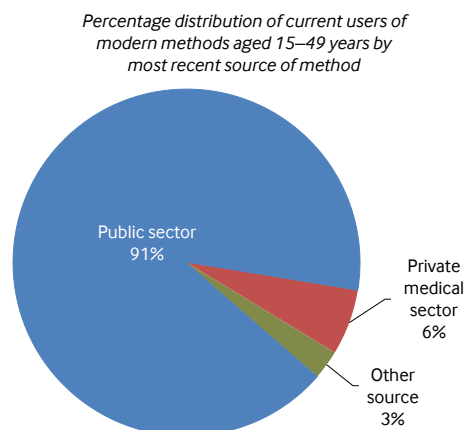
Eighty percent or more of users of long-acting reversible and permanent methods obtain them from public sector facilities. These methods include implants (99%), IUDs (80%), injectables (91%), and female sterilization (97%). Similarly, more than 8 in 10 pill users (84%) obtain their method from public sector facilities.

On the other hand, 40% of male condom users obtain their method from the public sector, 18% from the private medical sector, and 42% from other sources (including 40% from shops or bars).

Use of Social Marketing Brand Pills and Condoms

The majority of women who use pills or male condoms use a social marketing brand. Among women who use pills, 97% use Microgynon and/or Microlyte. Among women who use male condoms, 92% use Prudence, Plaisir, and/or Love (**Table 7.11**).

Figure 7.3 Source of modern contraceptive methods



7.3 Informed Choice

Informed choice

Informed choice indicates that women were informed about their method's side effects, about what to do if they experience side effects, and about other methods they could use.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years who are currently using selected modern contraceptive methods and who started the last episode of use within the 5 years before the survey

Informed choice is an important metric of the quality of family planning services. Family planning clients have the right to receive information about their choice of contraceptive method. Being informed assists users in coping with side effects and decreases unnecessary discontinuations.

Approximately half (52%) of modern contraceptive users were informed by a health or family planning worker about potential side effects of the method they use. Additionally, 66% were informed about what to do if they experienced side effects, and 66% were informed of other available methods of contraception (**Table 7.12**). Overall, 46% of users received all three types of information. This information was most likely to be received by IUD users (59%) and least likely to be received by users of female sterilization (22%).

Users were less likely to receive all three types of information from a private sector facility than from a public medical facility (31% versus 47%).

Furthermore, 73% of users received information about switching to another method if they wanted or needed to.

7.4 Discontinuation of Contraceptives

Contraceptive discontinuation rate

Percentage of contraceptive use episodes discontinued within 12 months.

Sample: Episodes of contraceptive use in the 5 years preceding the survey experienced by women who are currently aged 15–49 years (one woman may contribute more than one episode).

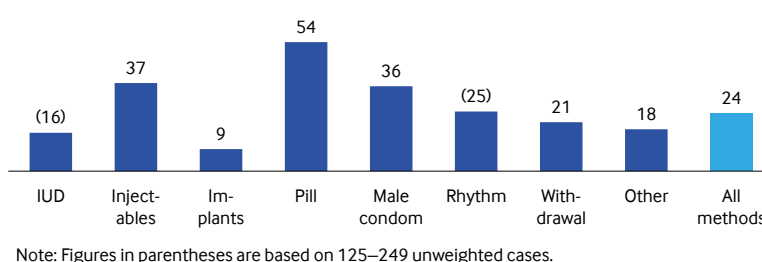
Couples can fulfil their reproductive goals only when they consistently and correctly use contraceptive methods. A prominent concern for family planning programmes is the rate at which contraceptive users discontinue using their methods, particularly while they are still in need.

Overall, 24% of all episodes of contraceptive use were discontinued within 12 months (**Table 7.13** and **Figure 7.4**). Apart from pills (54%), the discontinuation rate was highest for injectables (37%) and male condoms (36%); the rate was lowest for implants (9%).

The primary reasons for discontinuing a method were the desire to become pregnant (32%), side effects/health concerns (28%), and the desire for a more effective method (15%) (**Table 7.14**).

Figure 7.4 Contraceptive discontinuation rates

Percentage of contraceptive episodes discontinued within 12 months among women aged 15–49 years



7.5 Demand for Family Planning

Unmet need for family planning

Percentage of women who:

- (1) are not pregnant and not postpartum amenorrhoeic and are considered fecund and want to postpone their next birth for 2 or more years or stop childbearing altogether but are not using a contraceptive method, or
- (2) have a mistimed or unwanted current pregnancy, or
- (3) are postpartum amenorrhoeic and their most recent birth in the last 2 years was mistimed or unwanted.

Met need for family planning

Current contraceptive use (any method).

Sample: All women aged 15–49 years, currently married women aged 15–49 years, and sexually active unmarried women aged 15–49 years

Demand for family planning: $\text{Unmet need for family planning} + \text{met need (current contraceptive use [any method])}$

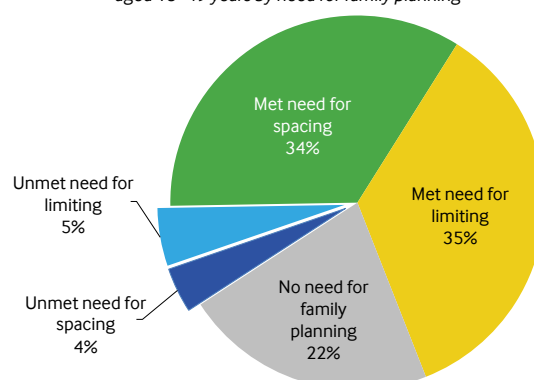
Proportion of demand satisfied: $\frac{\text{Current contraceptive use (any method)}}{\text{Unmet need} + \text{current contraceptive use (any method)}}$

Proportion of demand satisfied by modern methods: $\frac{\text{Current contraceptive use (any modern method)}}{\text{Unmet need} + \text{current contraceptive use (any method)}}$

Nine percent of currently married women have an unmet need for family planning (4% for spacing and 5% for limiting) (**Table 7.15.1** and **Figure 7.5**). Sixty-nine percent of currently married women are using a method and have a met need for family planning. By province, the percentages of married women with an unmet need for family planning are lowest in the Northern Province (5%) and highest in the Western Province (11%) (**Map 7.2**).

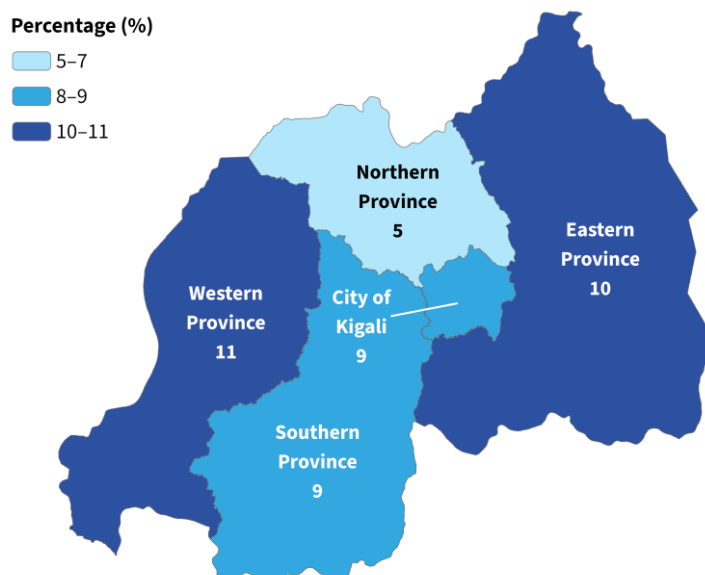
Figure 7.5 Demand for family planning

Percentage distribution of currently married women aged 15–49 years by need for family planning



Map 7.2 Unmet need by province

Percentage of currently married women aged 15–49 years with unmet need for family planning



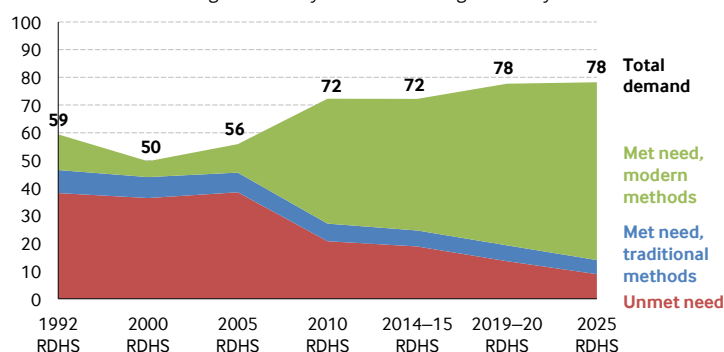
Thirty-two percent of sexually active unmarried women have an unmet need for family planning (22% for spacing and 10% for limiting), and 54% are using a method and have a met need for family planning. Among sexually active unmarried women, the total demand for spacing is 51% and the total demand for limiting is 35% (**Table 7.15.2**).

The total demand for family planning that is satisfied with modern methods is higher among currently married women (82%) than among sexually active unmarried women (60%).

Trends: Unmet need for family planning among currently married women has declined from 38% in 1992 to 9% in 2025 (**Figure 7.6**). During the same period, met need for family planning, particularly met need for modern methods, continued to increase.

Figure 7.6 Trends in demand for family planning

Percentage of currently married women aged 15–49 years



7.6 Decision Making about Family Planning and Opinion about Using Family Planning

The decision to use or not use family planning is often not made by the user alone; rather, in many cases, the opinions of other family members are considered. **Tables 7.16** and **7.17** present data on decision making about family planning.

In the majority of cases, the decision to use or not use family planning is made jointly by the wife and her husband/partner (78%) or by the wife alone (16%). Among women who make decisions jointly with their husband/partner, the majority report that the opinions of both parties are equally important (66%), while smaller proportions report that their opinion is less or more important (3% and 9%, respectively) (**Table 7.16**).

7.7 Pressure to Become Pregnant and Future Use of Contraception

Cultural and religious values as well as societal influences may lead to women being pressured to become pregnant when they do not wish to. In many cases, the pressure comes from the woman's husband/partner or from other family members such as parents, in-laws, and siblings.

Six percent of women have ever been pressured to become pregnant by a partner or other family member. Young women and women with no living children are less likely to have experienced such pressure than older women and those with five or more children. There is no difference in pressure to become pregnant between women using and not using contraception (6% each) (**Table 7.18**).

An important indicator of changes in demand for family planning is the extent to which nonusers plan to use contraceptive methods in the future. In the 2025 RDHS, women aged 15–49 years who were not using any contraceptive method at the time of the survey were asked about their intention to use family planning in the future.

Among women not currently using a contraceptive method, 42% do not intend to use contraception in the future, 57% intend to do so, and 2% are unsure about future use (**Table 7.19**). The proportion of nonusers who intend to use contraception in the future is highest among those with one or two children (70% and 69%, respectively), whereas the proportion who do not intend to use contraception in the future is highest among those with no children (51%) and those with four or more children (53%).

7.8 Exposure to Family Planning Messages

In the 2025 RDHS, respondents were asked about 13 types of exposure to family planning messages: radio, television, newspaper/magazine, mobile phone, social media, poster/leaflet/brochure, outdoor sign or billboard, community meeting or event, health facility, community health worker, school, church or mosque, and work/relative/friend. The first eight items are part of the standard DHS questionnaire, while the additional five are specific to Rwanda.

Exposure to family planning messages is more common among men than among women; 20% of women and 14% of men reported no exposure to family planning messages through any of the first eight sources listed above in the 12 months preceding the survey (**Table 7.20.1** and **Table 7.20.2**).

Radio is the most common source of family planning messages among both men (67%) and women (57%). The next most common sources are community events and meetings among men (60%) and health facilities among women (55%). Mobile phones are the least common source of family planning messages for both women and men (7% each).

7.9 Contact of Nonusers with Family Planning Providers

Contact of nonusers with family planning providers

Respondent discussed family planning in the 12 months before the survey with a fieldworker or during a visit to a health facility.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years who are not currently using any contraceptive methods



When family planning providers visit women in the community or when women visit health facilities, service providers are expected to discuss reproductive health needs and available contraceptive options, as well as to counsel women to adopt a family planning method. **Table 7.21** shows that, during the 12 months preceding the survey, 8% of women not using contraception were visited by a fieldworker who discussed family planning with them; 13% of women not using contraception visited a health facility and discussed family planning, while 38% visited a health facility but did not discuss family planning. More than 8 in 10 women who are not using contraception did not discuss family planning either with a fieldworker or at a health facility.

List of Tables

For more information on family planning, see the following tables:

- **Table 7.1** **Knowledge of contraceptive methods**
- **Table 7.2** **Knowledge of contraceptive methods according to background characteristics**
- **Table 7.3** **Current use of contraception according to age**
- **Table 7.4.1** **Trends in current use of contraception**
- **Table 7.4.2** **Current use of contraception according to background characteristics**
- **Table 7.5** **Timing of sterilization**
- **Table 7.6** **Use of DMPA-SC/Sayana Press**
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- **Table 7.10** **Source of modern contraceptive methods**
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- **Table 7.12** **Informed choice**
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- **Table 7.15.1** **Need and demand for family planning among currently married women**
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- **Table 7.18** **Pressure to become pregnant**
- **Table 7.19** **Future use of contraception**
- **Table 7.20.1** **Exposure to family planning messages: Women**
- **Table 7.20.2** **Exposure to family planning messages: Men**
- **Table 7.21** **Contact of nonusers with family planning providers**



Table 7.1 Knowledge of contraceptive methods

Percentage of all respondents, currently married respondents, and sexually active unmarried respondents aged 15–49 years who know any contraceptive method, by specific method, Rwanda DHS 2025

Method	Women			Men		
	All women	Currently married women	Sexually active unmarried women ¹	All men	Currently married men	Sexually active unmarried men ¹
Any method	99.4	100.0	99.8	98.9	99.9	100.0
Any modern method	99.3	100.0	99.5	98.9	99.9	100.0
Female sterilization	88.2	94.2	89.8	79.1	88.1	82.2
Male sterilization	82.4	92.6	85.1	81.2	92.4	78.6
IUD	86.2	95.7	89.3	78.3	88.6	76.2
Injectables	96.6	99.7	99.0	90.5	97.7	91.3
Implants	96.4	99.6	98.0	91.3	98.0	91.8
Pill	96.0	99.5	97.9	90.1	97.2	92.2
Male condom	98.1	99.7	99.5	98.0	99.3	99.4
Female condom	79.5	86.0	81.5	71.7	83.9	69.8
Emergency contraception	71.3	75.2	77.8	65.7	73.4	75.3
Standard days method (SDM)	78.8	91.4	76.0	65.9	83.3	60.5
Lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM)	74.4	88.5	76.9	63.0	78.4	56.0
Other modern method	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Any traditional method	94.4	98.3	96.0	89.0	97.0	88.4
Rhythm	92.7	96.6	92.2	87.2	95.2	86.1
Withdrawal	77.5	93.0	83.7	74.6	91.3	76.9
Other traditional method	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mean number of methods known by respondents 15–49	11.2	12.1	11.5	10.4	11.7	10.4
Number of respondents	14,283	7,410	440	5,891	2,983	183
Mean number of methods known by respondents 15–59	na	na	na	10.5	11.7	10.4
Number of respondents	na	na	na	6,548	3,584	186

na = Not applicable

¹ Had last sexual intercourse within 30 days preceding the survey

Table 7.2 Knowledge of contraceptive methods according to background characteristics

Percentage of currently married women and currently married men aged 15–49 years who have heard of at least one contraceptive method and who have heard of at least one modern method, by background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Heard of any method	Heard of any modern method ¹	Number	Heard of any method	Heard of any modern method ¹	Number
Age						
15–19	100.0	100.0	92	*	*	3
20–24	99.9	99.9	839	100.0	100.0	173
25–29	100.0	100.0	1,293	100.0	100.0	405
30–34	100.0	100.0	1,427	99.9	99.9	605
35–39	99.9	99.9	1,482	99.7	99.7	673
40–44	100.0	100.0	1,304	100.0	100.0	665
45–49	100.0	100.0	974	99.7	99.7	460
Residence						
Urban	100.0	100.0	2,166	100.0	100.0	910
Rural	99.9	99.9	5,244	99.8	99.8	2,073
Province						
City of Kigali	100.0	100.0	1,030	100.0	100.0	470
Southern Province	100.0	100.0	1,595	100.0	100.0	606
Western Province	99.9	99.9	1,559	99.7	99.7	622
Northern Province	100.0	100.0	1,173	99.8	99.8	486
Eastern Province	99.9	99.9	2,053	99.8	99.8	800
Education						
No education	99.5	99.5	603	99.5	99.5	245
Primary	100.0	100.0	4,610	99.9	99.9	2,007
Secondary	100.0	100.0	1,843	100.0	100.0	551
More than secondary	100.0	100.0	353	100.0	100.0	180
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	99.9	99.9	1,419	99.8	99.8	562
Second	99.9	99.9	1,457	99.8	99.8	564
Middle	100.0	100.0	1,499	99.6	99.6	597
Fourth	100.0	100.0	1,526	100.0	100.0	652
Highest	100.0	100.0	1,509	100.0	100.0	609
Total 15–49	100.0	100.0	7,410	99.9	99.9	2,983
50–59	na	na	na	99.5	99.5	600
Total 15–59	na	na	na	99.8	99.8	3,584

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

¹ Female sterilization, male sterilization, IUD, injectables, implants, pill, male condom, female condom, emergency contraception, standard days method (SDM), lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), and other modern methods

Table 7.3 Current use of contraception according to age

Percentage distribution of all women, currently married women, and sexually active unmarried women aged 15–49 years by contraceptive method currently used, according to age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age	Any method	Any modern method	Modern method												Traditional method				Not currently using	Total	Number of women
			Female sterilization	Male sterilization	IUD	Injections	Implants	Pill	Male condom	Female condom	Emergency contraception	SDM	LAM	Other	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal	Other			
ALL WOMEN																					
15–19	4.9	4.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	2.9	0.4	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	95.1	100.0	2,897
20–24	35.2	34.6	0.0	0.0	0.2	5.8	23.4	2.4	1.9	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.0	64.8	100.0	2,489
25–29	59.0	57.9	0.1	0.1	1.4	14.1	35.1	4.3	2.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.0	1.1	0.5	0.6	0.0	41.0	100.0	2,032
30–34	64.1	61.9	0.7	0.1	2.7	14.2	34.3	6.0	2.5	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.1	2.2	0.4	1.8	0.0	35.9	100.0	1,879
35–39	66.6	62.2	2.6	0.1	3.2	14.7	29.8	7.4	2.9	0.1	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.0	4.4	1.9	2.4	0.0	33.4	100.0	1,911
40–44	60.6	52.8	5.0	0.2	1.6	12.3	24.0	4.8	3.2	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.6	0.0	7.8	2.3	5.3	0.1	39.4	100.0	1,730
45–49	41.7	33.8	4.3	0.2	1.6	6.5	12.2	3.8	2.9	0.1	0.2	1.9	0.1	0.0	7.9	3.4	4.3	0.2	58.3	100.0	1,344
Total	44.1	41.2	1.5	0.1	1.4	9.0	22.2	3.8	2.1	0.0	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.0	2.9	1.0	1.8	0.0	55.9	100.0	14,283
CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN																					
15–19	38.0	38.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7	24.7	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	62.0	100.0	92
20–24	66.8	65.8	0.0	0.0	0.3	11.4	47.5	5.2	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.0	1.1	0.3	0.8	0.0	33.2	100.0	839
25–29	74.6	73.1	0.1	0.1	1.8	17.1	45.6	6.1	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.0	1.5	0.7	0.9	0.0	25.4	100.0	1,293
30–34	72.9	70.3	0.8	0.1	3.4	15.8	38.5	7.7	2.3	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.8	0.1	2.6	0.3	2.3	0.0	27.1	100.0	1,427
35–39	74.0	68.8	2.8	0.1	3.6	16.6	32.5	8.7	2.6	0.2	0.1	1.3	0.4	0.0	5.2	2.1	3.1	0.1	26.0	100.0	1,482
40–44	71.1	61.1	5.5	0.3	2.0	14.5	27.5	5.5	3.5	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.7	0.0	10.1	2.9	7.1	0.1	28.9	100.0	1,304
45–49	52.6	41.7	4.7	0.3	2.3	8.2	14.9	4.9	3.4	0.1	0.2	2.6	0.1	0.0	10.8	4.6	6.0	0.3	47.4	100.0	974
Total	69.3	64.2	2.3	0.1	2.4	14.3	34.3	6.6	2.4	0.0	0.1	1.1	0.5	0.0	5.1	1.7	3.3	0.1	30.7	100.0	7,410
SEXUALLY ACTIVE UNMARRIED WOMEN ¹																					
15–19	26.7	24.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.8	2.3	10.5	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	2.3	0.0	73.3	100.0	56
20–24	55.3	52.2	0.0	0.0	0.3	10.2	24.9	4.8	7.7	0.0	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	3.1	0.0	44.7	100.0	111
25+	59.0	57.5	2.1	0.0	0.3	18.0	28.2	1.7	6.8	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.5	1.1	0.0	41.0	100.0	273
Total	54.0	51.9	1.3	0.0	0.3	13.7	25.0	2.5	7.5	0.0	1.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.3	1.7	0.0	46.0	100.0	440

Note: If more than one method is used, only the most effective method is considered in this tabulation.

SDM = Standard days method; LAM = Lactational amenorrhoea method

¹ Women who had last sexual intercourse within 30 days preceding the survey



Table 7.4.1 Trends in current use of contraception

Percentage distribution of currently married women aged 15–49 years by contraceptive method currently used, according to several surveys, Rwanda DHS 2025

Method	1992 RDHS	2000 RDHS	2005 RDHS	2007–08 RDHS	2010 RDHS	2014–15 RDHS	2019–20 RDHS	2025 RDHS
Any method	21.2	13.2	17.4	36.4	51.6	53.2	64.1	69.3
Any modern method	12.9	5.7	10.3	27.4	45.1	47.5	58.4	64.2
Female sterilization	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.2	2.0	2.3
IUD	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.5	1.1	2.1	2.4
Injectables	8.4	1.9	4.7	15.2	26.3	24.0	15.3	13.3
Implants	0.3	0.1	0.2	1.6	6.3	7.7	26.6	34.3
Pill	3.0	1.0	2.4	6.4	7.1	8.4	6.9	6.6
Male condom	0.2	0.4	0.9	1.9	2.9	3.8	3.7	2.4
Other	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Any traditional method	8.3	7.6	7.1	8.9	6.4	5.8	5.7	5.1
Rhythm	5.1	4.7	4.2	6.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	1.7
Withdrawal	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.5	2.1	3.0	3.3
Other	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
Not currently using	78.8	86.8	82.6	63.6	48.4	46.8	35.9	30.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	3,785	5,052	5,510	6,897	15,528	6,982	7,401	7,410



Table 7.4.2 Current use of contraception according to background characteristics

Percentage distribution of currently married and sexually active unmarried women aged 15–49 years by contraceptive method currently used, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Modern method														Traditional method				Not currently using	Total	Number of women
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	IUD	Injectables	Implants	Pill	Male condom	Female condom	Emergency contraception	SDM	LAM	Other	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal	Other			
CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN																					
Number of living children																					
0	2.2	2.2	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	97.8	100.0	356
1–2	71.8	69.3	0.1	0.1	2.1	15.9	42.0	6.4	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.4	0.0	2.5	0.9	1.5	0.0	28.2	100.0	3,108
3–4	75.9	69.9	2.8	0.2	3.6	15.5	34.0	8.2	3.1	0.0	0.1	1.6	0.5	0.1	6.0	2.0	3.9	0.1	24.1	100.0	2,584
5+	68.9	58.0	6.9	0.2	1.4	12.0	26.3	5.5	3.5	0.1	0.1	1.4	0.7	0.0	10.8	3.6	7.1	0.2	31.1	100.0	1,361
Residence																					
Urban	65.1	60.9	2.4	0.0	5.2	15.2	26.5	7.4	2.3	0.1	0.1	1.4	0.2	0.0	4.2	1.7	2.4	0.1	34.9	100.0	2,166
Rural	71.1	65.6	2.3	0.2	1.2	14.0	37.6	6.2	2.4	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.6	0.0	5.5	1.7	3.7	0.1	28.9	100.0	5,244
Province																					
City of Kigali	65.8	61.3	2.0	0.1	6.0	16.6	25.2	7.4	2.3	0.2	0.0	1.1	0.2	0.0	4.5	2.4	2.0	0.1	34.2	100.0	1,030
Southern Province	70.5	63.7	2.8	0.1	2.6	12.5	32.9	8.3	2.8	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.5	0.0	6.7	2.2	4.4	0.1	29.5	100.0	1,595
Western Province	67.0	61.0	3.3	0.3	1.0	14.7	33.3	4.5	1.7	0.0	0.1	1.5	0.5	0.1	6.1	1.7	4.4	0.0	33.0	100.0	1,559
Northern Province	76.1	72.1	1.2	0.1	2.0	13.4	45.9	5.5	2.6	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.2	0.0	4.0	2.0	1.9	0.0	23.9	100.0	1,173
Eastern Province	68.1	64.0	2.0	0.1	1.7	14.8	34.3	7.0	2.4	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.0	4.2	0.9	3.1	0.1	31.9	100.0	2,053
Education																					
No education	64.3	59.4	3.0	0.4	1.0	11.2	35.9	3.4	2.7	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.6	0.0	4.9	1.5	3.4	0.1	35.7	100.0	603
Primary	70.0	64.2	2.5	0.2	1.2	14.2	36.3	6.3	2.2	0.1	0.0	0.8	0.4	0.0	5.8	1.8	3.9	0.1	30.0	100.0	4,610
Secondary	69.7	66.7	1.6	0.0	3.3	16.1	32.8	8.2	2.6	0.0	0.2	1.3	0.6	0.0	3.1	1.0	2.0	0.0	30.3	100.0	1,843
More than secondary	67.2	59.4	2.1	0.3	16.0	12.1	14.2	7.1	2.2	0.0	0.4	4.3	0.6	0.1	7.7	4.5	3.0	0.3	32.8	100.0	353
Wealth quintile																					
Lowest	68.8	65.0	1.3	0.1	0.6	10.4	45.0	4.6	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.1	3.8	0.9	2.9	0.0	31.2	100.0	1,419
Second	71.7	66.2	2.4	0.1	0.5	13.4	41.0	6.3	1.6	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.2	0.0	5.5	2.0	3.5	0.0	28.3	100.0	1,457
Middle	73.0	67.4	1.9	0.2	1.3	17.3	36.7	5.7	2.8	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.5	0.0	5.6	1.4	4.0	0.1	27.0	100.0	1,499
Fourth	69.0	63.9	3.2	0.2	1.1	16.4	29.9	8.0	3.1	0.2	0.0	1.2	0.5	0.0	5.2	1.6	3.4	0.1	31.0	100.0	1,526
Highest	64.2	58.7	2.7	0.1	8.2	14.0	20.1	8.0	2.6	0.0	0.2	2.4	0.3	0.0	5.5	2.7	2.7	0.1	35.8	100.0	1,509
Total	69.3	64.2	2.3	0.1	2.4	14.3	34.3	6.6	2.4	0.0	0.1	1.1	0.5	0.0	5.1	1.7	3.3	0.1	30.7	100.0	7,410
SEXUALLY ACTIVE UNMARRIED WOMEN¹																					
Residence																					
Urban	52.9	52.2	1.8	0.0	0.2	15.4	24.6	3.3	3.9	0.0	2.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	47.1	100.0	191
Rural	54.8	51.7	0.9	0.0	0.3	12.5	25.4	1.9	10.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	3.1	0.0	45.2	100.0	249
Total	54.0	51.9	1.3	0.0	0.3	13.7	25.0	2.5	7.5	0.0	1.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.3	1.7	0.0	46.0	100.0	440

Note: If more than one method is used, only the most effective method is considered in this tabulation.

SDM = Standard days method; LAM = Lactational amenorrhoea method

¹ Women who have had sexual intercourse within 30 days preceding the survey



Table 7.5 Timing of sterilization

Percentage distribution of sterilized women aged 15–49 years by age at the time of sterilization and median age at sterilization, according to the number of years since the operation, Rwanda DHS 2025

Years since operation	Age at time of sterilization						Total	Number of women	Median age ¹
	<25	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45–49			
<2	0.0	2.1	18.3	52.3	25.4	2.0	100.0	52	36.4
2–3	(0.0)	(2.6)	(18.3)	(40.5)	(36.1)	(2.5)	100.0	39	(36.2)
4–5	0.0	5.7	17.2	44.0	30.5	2.6	100.0	53	36.5
6–7	(0.0)	(3.8)	(17.8)	(59.3)	(19.1)	(0.0)	100.0	29	(35.7)
8–9	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	20	*
10+	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	16	a
Total	0.6	5.7	20.7	47.8	23.5	1.7	100.0	209	35.9

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Median age at sterilization is calculated only for women sterilized before age 40 to avoid problems of censoring.

a = Not calculated due to censoring

Table 7.6 Use of DMPA-SC/Sayana Press

Percentage of current injectable users aged 15–49 years using DMPA-SC/Sayana Press, and among women using DMPA-SC/Sayana Press, percentage distribution by the person administering the injection the last time, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage using DMPA-SC/Sayana Press	Number of women using injectables	Among DMPA-SC/Sayana Press users, person administering injection the last time:			
			Self-injection	Injection given by health care provider	Total	Number of women
Age						
15–19	*	13	*	*	100.0	3
20–24	33.6	144	(2.3)	(97.7)	100.0	48
25–29	27.3	286	0.0	100.0	100.0	78
30–34	30.6	267	0.0	100.0	100.0	82
35–39	27.4	281	0.0	100.0	100.0	77
40–44	28.1	213	0.0	100.0	100.0	60
45–49	26.0	87	*	*	100.0	23
Residence						
Urban	30.0	399	0.0	100.0	100.0	120
Rural	28.2	891	0.8	99.2	100.0	251
Province						
City of Kigali	27.6	203	(1.7)	(98.3)	100.0	56
Southern Province	18.5	241	0.0	100.0	100.0	45
Western Province	31.3	271	0.0	100.0	100.0	85
Northern Province	42.9	189	1.3	98.7	100.0	81
Eastern Province	27.1	386	0.0	100.0	100.0	104
Education						
No education	26.6	82	*	*	100.0	22
Primary	28.1	809	0.4	99.6	100.0	227
Secondary	31.5	355	1.0	99.0	100.0	112
More than secondary	(22.2)	44	*	*	100.0	10
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	26.2	188	0.0	100.0	100.0	49
Second	31.1	241	0.0	100.0	100.0	75
Middle	31.3	326	0.0	100.0	100.0	102
Fourth	27.5	300	1.3	98.7	100.0	82
Highest	26.4	235	1.5	98.5	100.0	62
Total	28.8	1,290	0.5	99.5	100.0	371

Note: Subcutaneous (SC) depot medroxyprogesterone acetate (DMPA) is a self-injectable contraceptive; its brand name is Sayana Press. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 7.7 Use of emergency contraception

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who used emergency contraception in the last 12 months, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who used emergency contraception	Number of women
Age		
15–19	1.0	2,897
20–24	4.3	2,489
25–29	4.2	2,032
30–34	4.1	1,879
35–39	2.6	1,911
40–44	2.2	1,730
45–49	1.9	1,344
Residence		
Urban	3.8	4,570
Rural	2.4	9,713
Province		
City of Kigali	4.2	2,290
Southern Province	2.7	3,087
Western Province	1.2	2,949
Northern Province	3.3	2,089
Eastern Province	3.2	3,868
Education		
No education	1.7	929
Primary	2.7	7,938
Secondary	3.2	4,765
More than secondary	4.0	651
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	2.8	2,642
Second	2.4	2,738
Middle	2.7	2,746
Fourth	3.0	2,885
Highest	3.4	3,272
Total	2.9	14,283

Table 7.8 Knowledge of fertile period

Percentage distribution of rhythm users, SDM users, and all women aged 15–49 years by knowledge of the fertile period during the ovulatory cycle, Rwanda DHS 2025

Perceived fertile period	Users of rhythm method	Users of SDM	All women
Just before her menstrual period begins	20.2	15.7	16.2
During her menstrual period	2.8	1.1	1.6
Right after her menstrual period has ended	43.5	43.7	37.3
Halfway between two menstrual periods	26.4	28.9	24.3
Other	0.0	0.0	0.2
No specific time	5.5	7.8	7.5
Don't know	1.7	2.8	13.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	149	91	14,283

SDM = Standard days method

Table 7.9 Knowledge of fertile period by age

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years with correct knowledge of the fertile period during the ovulatory cycle, according to age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age	Percentage with correct knowledge of the fertile period	Number of women
15–19	21.7	2,897
20–24	23.7	2,489
25–29	28.3	2,032
30–34	25.3	1,879
35–39	24.4	1,911
40–44	23.0	1,730
45–49	25.3	1,344
Total	24.3	14,283

Note: Correct knowledge of the fertile period is defined as “halfway between two menstrual periods.”

Table 7.10 Source of modern contraceptive methods

Percentage distribution of users of modern contraceptive methods aged 15–49 years by most recent source of method, according to method, Rwanda DHS 2025

Source	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	IUD	Injectables	Implants	Pill	Male condom	Female condom	Emergency contraception	SDM	Other modern method	Total
Public sector	96.5	*	80.3	90.6	99.1	84.2	39.9	*	(12.3)	69.3	*	91.2
Referral hospital	20.3	*	12.2	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.0	*	(0.0)	0.0	*	1.7
Provincial/district hospital	69.0	*	22.4	1.8	15.9	5.0	1.1	*	(0.0)	2.4	*	12.9
Health centre	7.2	*	44.8	62.9	80.0	56.5	30.3	*	(7.2)	55.8	*	66.8
Health post	0.0	*	1.0	8.6	2.3	5.0	0.7	*	(3.7)	0.0	*	3.7
Outreach	0.0	*	0.0	0.6	0.0	1.8	0.4	*	(0.0)	0.0	*	0.3
Community health worker	0.0	*	0.0	16.5	0.0	15.6	7.5	*	(1.4)	11.1	*	5.7
Private medical sector	3.5	*	19.7	9.4	0.9	15.6	17.8	*	(87.7)	1.7	*	6.1
Polyclinic hospital	2.3	*	7.7	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.3	*	(0.0)	0.0	*	0.6
Private clinic	1.1	*	10.9	6.1	0.4	0.5	0.8	*	(0.0)	0.9	*	2.1
Pharmacy	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.9	16.6	*	(87.7)	0.3	*	2.7
Dispensary	0.0	*	0.0	2.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	*	(0.0)	0.5	*	0.6
Family planning clinic	0.0	*	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	*	(0.0)	0.0	*	0.2
Other private medical sector	0.0	*	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	*	(0.0)	0.0	*	0.0
Other source	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	42.3	*	(0.0)	29.0	*	2.7
Shop/bar	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.2	*	(0.0)	0.8	*	2.1
Church	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*	(0.0)	6.2	*	0.1
Friend/relative	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	2.1	*	(0.0)	16.5	*	0.4
Youth centre	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*	(0.0)	1.3	*	0.0
Other	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*	(0.0)	4.2	*	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	209	11	195	1,290	3,173	547	306	3	25	91	2	5,851

Note: Total includes other modern methods but excludes lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM). Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

SDM = Standard days method



Table 7.11 Use of social marketing brand pills and condoms

Percentage of pill and condom users aged 15–49 years using a social marketing brand, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Among pill users		Among condom users ¹	
	Percentage using Microgynon or Microlyte	Number of women	Percentage using Prudence, Plaisir, or Love	Number of women
Age				
15–19	*	11	*	21
20–24	96.1	57	(90.6)	44
25–29	98.3	85	(89.3)	39
30–34	95.5	113	(88.9)	46
35–39	97.5	138	96.8	54
40–44	96.8	81	91.6	51
45–49	95.5	50	(100.0)	35
Residence				
Urban	96.7	177	90.2	82
Rural	96.9	359	92.9	209
Province				
City of Kigali	97.4	82	(96.2)	31
Southern Province	95.7	146	84.8	81
Western Province	97.3	74	(93.1)	38
Northern Province	98.4	67	97.6	54
Eastern Province	96.7	167	93.9	86
Education				
No education	(100.0)	24	*	19
Primary	96.4	322	93.0	163
Secondary	97.8	162	91.9	96
More than secondary	(93.2)	27	*	12
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	98.6	74	(89.6)	47
Second	96.8	104	(96.5)	37
Middle	96.4	99	91.5	69
Fourth	97.4	127	100.0	78
Highest	95.5	131	82.1	60
Total	96.8	536	92.2	290

Note: Table excludes pill and condom users who do not know the brand name. Condom use is based on women's reports. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Among condom users not also using the pill

Table 7.12 Informed choice

Among current users of selected modern methods aged 15–49 years who started the last episode of use within the 5 years preceding the survey, percentage who were informed about possible side effects or problems of that method, percentage who were informed about what to do if they experienced side effects, percentage who were informed about other methods they could use, percentage who received all three types of information, and percentage who were informed that they could switch to another method if they wanted to or needed to, according to method and initial source, Rwanda DHS 2025

Among women who started last episode of modern contraceptive method within the 5 years preceding the survey:							
Method/source	Percentage who were informed about side effects or problems of method used	Percentage who were informed about what to do if they experienced side effects	Percentage who were informed of other methods that could be used	Percentage who received all three types of information (method information index) ¹	Number of women	Percentage who were informed that they could switch to another method if they wanted to or needed to	Number of women ²
Method							
Female sterilization	39.6	40.9	31.1	22.3	119	na	na
IUD	64.8	77.2	73.7	58.6	148	79.0	148
Injectables	49.0	62.7	63.7	43.6	1,104	70.9	1,104
Implants	54.2	69.0	68.1	48.5	2,709	73.8	2,709
Pill	45.9	62.0	62.0	41.9	484	72.0	484
Initial source of method³							
Public sector	52.8	67.4	66.8	47.1	4,312	73.9	4,198
Referral hospital	41.9	55.2	53.7	39.9	71	(76.2)	46
Provincial/district hospital	44.7	61.9	59.2	38.0	684	66.3	604
Health centre	55.1	69.3	69.3	49.7	3,253	75.3	3,244
Health post	44.3	58.0	53.9	35.8	160	70.7	160
Outreach	63.0	75.9	73.8	57.3	52	83.2	52
Community health worker	46.2	62.2	62.6	44.0	92	73.5	92
Private medical sector	39.4	46.3	45.9	31.3	248	58.9	244
Polyclinic hospital	(46.0)	(49.4)	(48.7)	(34.4)	35	(68.6)	31
Private clinic	53.8	64.5	61.6	47.1	94	78.7	94
Pharmacy	21.0	22.3	27.6	12.4	88	35.4	88
Dispensary	*	*	*	*	22	*	22
Family planning clinic	*	*	*	*	9	*	9
Other source	*	*	*	*	2	*	2
Friend/relative	*	*	*	*	1	*	1
Youth centre	*	*	*	*	1	*	1
Total	52.0	66.3	65.6	46.3	4,563	73.0	4,444

Note: Table includes users of only the methods listed individually. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

¹ The method information index is the percentage of women who were informed about (1) side effects or problems of method used, (2) what to do if they experienced side effects, and (3) other methods that could be used.

² Excludes women who are sterilized

³ Source at start of current episode of use

Table 7.13 Twelve-month contraceptive discontinuation rates

Among episodes of contraceptive use experienced within the 5 years preceding the survey, percentage of episodes discontinued within 12 months, according to reason for discontinuation and specific method, Rwanda DHS 2025

Method	Method failure	Desire to become pregnant	Other fertility-related reasons ¹	Changes in menstrual bleeding	Other side effects/health concerns	Wanted more effective method	Other method-related reasons ²	Husband/partner disapproved	Other reasons ³	Any reason ⁴	Switched to another method ⁵	Number of episodes of use ⁶
IUD	(1.0)	(6.7)	(0.0)	(0.8)	(5.7)	(0.2)	(0.5)	(0.6)	(0.7)	(16.1)	(2.0)	218
Injectables	2.0	8.8	3.5	2.4	13.5	4.1	1.6	0.2	0.9	37.0	8.9	2,076
Implants	0.3	2.0	0.5	0.6	5.0	0.8	0.0	0.1	0.1	9.3	2.8	3,888
Pill	4.9	6.7	4.3	1.5	16.6	12.5	5.8	0.7	1.2	54.2	22.0	1,149
Male condom	3.2	5.6	6.8	0.0	1.9	11.5	3.0	2.6	1.2	35.7	12.7	385
Rhythm	(5.2)	(4.7)	(2.5)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(4.9)	(3.5)	(0.6)	(2.5)	(25.1)	(7.8)	200
Withdrawal	4.9	3.9	0.8	0.0	0.7	6.6	1.5	1.1	1.0	20.6	8.3	316
Other ⁷	2.5	3.7	1.3	0.3	0.7	6.2	1.5	0.0	1.4	17.6	7.3	365
All methods	1.8	4.7	2.1	1.1	8.0	4.1	1.5	0.3	0.6	24.3	7.7	8,598

Note: Figures are based on life table calculations using information on episodes of use that occurred 3–62 months preceding the survey. Figures in parentheses are based on 125–249 unweighted cases.

¹ Includes infrequent sex/husband away, difficult to get pregnant/menopausal, and marital dissolution/separation

² Includes lack of access/too far, costs too much, and inconvenient to use

³ Includes up to God/fatalistic and other reasons

⁴ Reasons for discontinuation are mutually exclusive and add to the total given in this column.

⁵ A woman is considered to have switched to another method if she used a different method in the month following discontinuation or if she gave “wanted a more effective method” as the reason for discontinuation and started another method within 2 months of discontinuation.

⁶ All episodes of use that occurred within the 5 years preceding the survey are included. Episodes of use include both episodes that were discontinued during the period of observation and episodes that were not discontinued during the period of observation.

⁷ Includes lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), female sterilization, male sterilization, female condom, emergency contraception, standard days method (SDM), and other modern and traditional methods

Table 7.14 Reasons for discontinuation

Percentage distribution of discontinuations of contraceptive methods in the 5 years preceding the survey by main reason stated for discontinuation, according to specific method, Rwanda DHS 2025

Reason	IUD	Injectables	Implants	Pill	Male condom	Rhythm	Withdrawal	Other ¹	All methods
Became pregnant while using	6.6	4.9	2.6	11.0	7.5	17.1	23.1	19.2	6.4
Wanted to become pregnant	43.1	35.9	31.6	23.6	24.4	38.0	40.1	34.1	31.9
Husband/partner disapproved	1.9	0.5	0.5	1.0	6.1	1.7	2.1	0.0	0.9
Wanted a more effective method	9.8	9.5	16.8	16.6	26.9	20.5	18.4	20.6	15.1
Changes in menstrual bleeding	2.7	5.4	4.5	2.9	0.0	0.8	0.6	0.7	4.0
Other side effects/health concerns	28.5	28.0	35.8	24.7	4.3	0.8	1.7	2.9	27.5
Lack of access/too far	0.0	4.4	1.0	5.7	1.7	0.0	0.0	2.6	2.8
Cost too much	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.5	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.4
Inconvenient to use	2.0	0.6	0.1	4.9	3.8	8.5	7.1	4.5	1.8
Up to God/fatalistic	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.6	1.4	0.1
Difficult to get pregnant/menopausal	2.1	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.0	1.6	0.6	0.0	0.4
Infrequent sex/husband away	0.9	5.5	4.2	5.7	18.6	5.5	3.7	6.7	5.4
Marital dissolution/separation	0.9	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.0	2.3	1.3
Other	1.4	2.5	1.2	2.0	1.7	2.5	2.0	3.0	1.8
Don't know	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2
Missing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of discontinuations	115	1,641	2,262	987	219	139	176	140	5,680

¹ Includes lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), male sterilization, female condom, emergency contraception, standard days method (SDM), and other modern and traditional methods



Table 7.15.1 Need and demand for family planning among currently married women

Percentage of currently married women aged 15–49 years with unmet need for family planning, percentage with met need for family planning, total demand for family planning, percentage of the demand for family planning that is satisfied, and percentage of the demand for family planning that is satisfied by modern methods, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Unmet need for family planning			Met need for family planning (currently using)			Total demand for family planning ¹			Number of women	Percentage of demand satisfied ²	Percentage of demand satisfied by modern methods ³
	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total			
Age												
15–19	1.4	0.0	1.4	29.7	8.2	38.0	31.1	8.2	39.4	92	96.4	96.4
20–24	4.3	0.5	4.7	63.4	3.5	66.8	67.6	3.9	71.6	839	93.4	91.9
25–29	5.0	0.5	5.5	60.5	14.1	74.6	65.5	14.6	80.1	1,293	93.2	91.3
30–34	5.9	2.4	8.3	45.0	27.9	72.9	50.9	30.3	81.2	1,427	89.8	86.6
35–39	4.8	5.1	9.9	27.2	46.8	74.0	32.0	51.9	83.9	1,482	88.2	82.0
40–44	1.8	9.7	11.5	9.7	61.4	71.1	11.5	71.1	82.6	1,304	86.1	73.9
45–49	0.7	12.7	13.5	2.3	50.3	52.6	3.0	63.0	66.0	974	79.6	63.2
Residence												
Urban	4.9	4.7	9.7	34.3	30.8	65.1	39.3	35.5	74.8	2,166	87.1	81.5
Rural	3.4	5.1	8.5	34.2	36.9	71.1	37.6	42.0	79.6	5,244	89.3	82.4
Province												
City of Kigali	4.3	4.2	8.5	35.3	30.5	65.8	39.5	34.8	74.3	1,030	88.5	82.5
Southern Province	2.9	5.6	8.5	30.7	39.8	70.5	33.6	45.4	79.0	1,595	89.2	80.7
Western Province	5.9	5.2	11.1	34.9	32.1	67.0	40.8	37.3	78.1	1,559	85.8	78.1
Northern Province	2.5	2.9	5.4	37.5	38.6	76.1	40.0	41.5	81.5	1,173	93.3	88.4
Eastern Province	3.7	5.9	9.6	34.1	34.1	68.1	37.7	40.0	77.7	2,053	87.7	82.3
Education												
No education	3.5	8.5	12.0	16.2	48.1	64.3	19.7	56.7	76.3	603	84.2	77.8
Primary	3.5	5.7	9.2	31.3	38.7	70.0	34.8	44.4	79.2	4,610	88.4	81.1
Secondary	5.1	2.4	7.6	47.9	21.8	69.7	53.1	24.3	77.3	1,843	90.2	86.2
More than secondary	3.2	2.5	5.7	31.4	35.8	67.2	34.6	38.3	72.9	353	92.1	81.5
Wealth quintile												
Lowest	3.8	6.0	9.8	34.8	34.0	68.8	38.7	39.9	78.6	1,419	87.5	82.6
Second	3.3	4.8	8.1	33.9	37.8	71.7	37.2	42.6	79.8	1,457	89.8	82.9
Middle	3.1	4.7	7.8	35.6	37.4	73.0	38.6	42.1	80.8	1,499	90.4	83.4
Fourth	4.5	5.3	9.8	34.2	34.8	69.0	38.7	40.1	78.8	1,526	87.6	81.1
Highest	4.6	4.3	8.9	32.6	31.6	64.2	37.2	35.9	73.1	1,509	87.8	80.4
Total	3.9	5.0	8.9	34.2	35.1	69.3	38.1	40.1	78.2	7,410	88.7	82.1

Note: Numbers in this table correspond to the revised definition of unmet need described in Bradley et al. 2012.

¹ Total demand is the sum of unmet need and met need.

² Percentage of demand satisfied is met need divided by total demand.

³ Modern methods include female sterilization, male sterilization, IUD, injectables, implants, pill, male condom, female condom, emergency contraception, standard days method (SDM), lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), and other modern methods.

Table 7.15.2 Need and demand for family planning among all women and among sexually active unmarried women

Percentage of all women and sexually active unmarried women aged 15–49 years with unmet need for family planning, percentage with met need for family planning, total demand for family planning, percentage of the demand for family planning that is satisfied, and percentage of the demand for family planning that is satisfied by modern methods, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Unmet need for family planning			Met need for family planning (currently using)			Total demand for family planning ¹			Number of women	Percent-age of demand satisfied ²	Percent-age of demand satisfied by modern methods ³
	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total	For spacing	For limiting	Total			
ALL WOMEN												
Age												
15–19	2.6	0.1	2.8	4.1	0.7	4.9	6.8	0.9	7.7	2,897	63.8	60.6
20–24	4.4	0.4	4.7	31.6	3.6	35.2	36.0	4.0	39.9	2,489	88.1	86.6
25–29	4.8	0.8	5.6	46.4	12.6	59.0	51.2	13.4	64.6	2,032	91.3	89.6
30–34	5.2	2.4	7.7	37.5	26.7	64.1	42.7	29.1	71.8	1,879	89.3	86.2
35–39	4.3	5.0	9.3	22.8	43.8	66.6	27.1	48.8	76.0	1,911	87.7	81.9
40–44	1.4	8.3	9.6	7.4	53.2	60.6	8.8	61.4	70.2	1,730	86.3	75.2
45–49	0.5	10.0	10.5	1.8	39.9	41.7	2.3	49.9	52.2	1,344	79.8	64.6
Residence												
Urban	3.8	2.8	6.6	20.8	17.6	38.4	24.6	20.4	45.0	4,570	85.3	80.4
Rural	3.3	3.3	6.6	22.6	24.3	46.8	25.9	27.6	53.4	9,713	87.6	81.7
Province												
City of Kigali	3.9	2.6	6.5	20.3	16.9	37.2	24.2	19.5	43.7	2,290	85.2	79.8
Southern Province	3.2	3.3	6.5	20.3	25.2	45.5	23.5	28.5	52.1	3,087	87.4	79.9
Western Province	4.3	3.3	7.6	21.5	20.1	41.7	25.9	23.4	49.3	2,949	84.5	78.0
Northern Province	2.4	1.8	4.2	24.9	25.5	50.4	27.3	27.3	54.6	2,089	92.3	87.7
Eastern Province	3.4	3.8	7.2	23.0	22.5	45.6	26.4	26.4	52.8	3,868	86.3	81.9
Education												
No education	2.7	6.7	9.4	11.7	40.6	52.4	14.5	47.3	61.8	929	84.8	79.6
Primary	3.6	4.1	7.7	22.5	27.4	50.0	26.1	31.5	57.6	7,938	86.7	80.5
Secondary	3.5	1.1	4.6	23.4	10.0	33.4	26.9	11.1	38.0	4,765	87.9	84.1
More than secondary	2.8	1.4	4.3	19.6	20.4	40.0	22.5	21.8	44.3	651	90.4	79.8
Wealth quintile												
Lowest	3.9	4.6	8.5	22.9	26.8	49.7	26.7	31.4	58.2	2,642	85.4	81.4
Second	3.6	3.1	6.7	22.0	24.8	46.8	25.5	27.9	53.5	2,738	87.5	81.9
Middle	3.0	3.1	6.1	24.1	24.0	48.1	27.1	27.2	54.2	2,746	88.7	82.7
Fourth	3.7	3.1	6.8	22.7	20.6	43.3	26.5	23.7	50.1	2,885	86.5	80.6
Highest	3.2	2.1	5.3	18.9	15.9	34.7	22.1	17.9	40.0	3,272	86.8	79.8
Total	3.5	3.1	6.6	22.0	22.1	44.1	25.5	25.3	50.7	14,283	87.0	81.3
SEXUALLY ACTIVE UNMARRIED WOMEN ⁴												
Age												
15–19	60.6	1.7	62.3	24.9	1.8	26.7	85.5	3.5	89.1	56	30.0	27.5
20–24	28.2	2.2	30.4	45.2	10.1	55.3	73.4	12.3	85.7	111	64.5	60.9
25–29	24.2	3.1	27.3	44.7	20.1	64.7	68.8	23.1	92.0	80	70.4	69.2
30–34	10.2	6.7	16.8	24.4	42.0	66.4	34.6	48.7	83.3	66	79.8	76.5
35–39	8.9	18.6	27.5	15.8	41.9	57.7	24.7	60.5	85.2	60	67.7	65.5
40–44	(0.0)	(26.7)	(26.7)	(3.1)	(47.4)	(50.5)	(3.1)	(74.1)	(77.2)	48	(65.4)	(65.4)
45–49	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	18	*	*
Residence												
Urban	23.0	8.0	31.0	27.8	25.1	52.9	50.8	33.1	83.9	191	63.0	62.2
Rural	21.2	11.5	32.7	29.9	24.9	54.8	51.1	36.4	87.5	249	62.7	59.1
Province												
City of Kigali	25.7	9.3	35.0	21.1	24.2	45.2	46.8	33.4	80.2	117	56.4	55.5
Southern Province	18.6	8.4	26.9	34.2	22.5	56.7	52.8	30.9	83.7	95	67.8	65.0
Western Province	19.2	10.9	30.1	30.8	26.3	57.1	50.0	37.2	87.2	66	65.4	65.4
Northern Province	22.7	6.0	28.6	32.8	30.0	62.7	55.4	36.0	91.4	45	68.7	63.0
Eastern Province	22.3	13.0	35.4	30.2	25.2	55.4	52.5	38.2	90.7	117	61.0	57.6
Education												
No education	(4.3)	(21.1)	(25.4)	(9.7)	(40.8)	(50.5)	(13.9)	(62.0)	(75.9)	36	(66.6)	(66.6)
Primary	19.0	12.1	31.1	28.2	27.2	55.4	47.2	39.3	86.5	272	64.1	61.1
Secondary	32.1	2.9	35.0	37.7	15.9	53.6	69.8	18.9	88.7	117	60.5	59.4
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	15	*	*
Wealth quintile												
Lowest	9.0	17.6	26.6	24.1	32.9	57.0	33.1	50.5	83.6	98	68.2	63.9
Second	22.8	12.4	35.2	24.2	31.4	55.6	47.0	43.9	90.9	90	61.2	60.7
Middle	22.4	10.0	32.5	27.9	24.6	52.5	50.4	34.6	85.0	77	61.8	58.9
Fourth	26.6	6.5	33.1	36.8	21.1	57.8	63.4	27.6	90.9	89	63.6	60.9
Highest	30.7	2.2	33.0	32.5	13.6	46.1	63.2	15.8	79.1	85	58.3	57.0
Total	22.0	10.0	32.0	29.0	25.0	54.0	51.0	35.0	85.9	440	62.8	60.4

Note: Numbers in this table correspond to the revised definition of unmet need described in Bradley et al. 2012. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Total demand is the sum of unmet need and met need.

² Percentage of demand satisfied is met need divided by total demand.

³ Modern methods include female sterilization, male sterilization, IUD, injectables, implants, pill, male condom, female condom, emergency contraception, standard days method (SDM), lactational amenorrhoea method (LAM), and other modern methods.

⁴ Women who have had sexual intercourse within 30 days preceding the survey

Table 7.16 Decision making about family planning

Percentage distribution of currently married women by person who usually makes the decision to use or not use family planning, Rwanda DHS 2025

Decision maker	Percentage
Mainly wife	16.0
Wife and husband/partner jointly	78.3
Wife's opinion more important	9.4
Wife's and husband's/partner's opinion equally important	65.9
Wife's opinion less important than husband's/partner's	3.0
Mainly husband	3.1
Someone else/other	2.6
Total	100.0
Number of currently married women	7,410

Table 7.17 Decision making about family planning by background characteristics

Percentage distribution of currently married women aged 15–49 years by person who usually makes the decision to use or not use family planning and percentage who participate in the decision to use or not use family planning, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Mainly wife	Wife and husband/partner jointly	Mainly husband/partner	Someone else/other	Total	Percentage who participate in decision making about family planning	Number of women
Age							
15–19	25.6	68.6	3.2	2.6	100.0	94.2	92
20–24	13.8	79.4	3.4	3.5	100.0	93.1	839
25–29	10.1	85.3	2.8	1.7	100.0	95.4	1,293
30–34	14.6	80.8	2.3	2.3	100.0	95.4	1,427
35–39	17.4	76.8	3.8	2.0	100.0	94.2	1,482
40–44	18.0	75.3	3.5	3.1	100.0	93.3	1,304
45–49	21.7	71.7	3.0	3.6	100.0	93.4	974
Family planning use							
Currently using	14.1	82.4	3.0	0.5	100.0	96.5	5,137
Not currently using ¹	20.1	69.0	3.5	7.4	100.0	89.1	2,273
Number of living children							
0	16.8	62.4	5.3	15.5	100.0	79.2	356
1–2	12.8	82.0	2.8	2.4	100.0	94.8	3,108
3–4	17.4	78.4	3.2	1.0	100.0	95.8	2,584
5+	20.1	74.0	3.3	2.5	100.0	94.2	1,361
Residence							
Urban	17.8	76.0	2.5	3.7	100.0	93.8	2,166
Rural	15.2	79.3	3.4	2.1	100.0	94.5	5,244
Province							
City of Kigali	20.6	71.9	1.8	5.7	100.0	92.5	1,030
Southern Province	14.1	80.8	3.5	1.7	100.0	94.9	1,595
Western Province	12.0	82.7	2.5	2.8	100.0	94.7	1,559
Northern Province	15.6	80.3	2.3	1.8	100.0	95.9	1,173
Eastern Province	18.3	75.1	4.5	2.0	100.0	93.4	2,053
Education							
No education	23.2	70.4	3.9	2.5	100.0	93.6	603
Primary	16.5	77.4	3.4	2.7	100.0	93.9	4,610
Secondary	12.8	82.4	2.6	2.2	100.0	95.2	1,843
More than secondary	12.6	82.2	1.3	3.8	100.0	94.9	353
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	20.2	73.6	4.2	2.0	100.0	93.8	1,419
Second	16.3	78.7	3.3	1.8	100.0	94.9	1,457
Middle	15.5	79.3	3.5	1.6	100.0	94.9	1,499
Fourth	14.8	79.5	2.4	3.3	100.0	94.3	1,526
Highest	13.3	80.2	2.4	4.1	100.0	93.5	1,509
Total	16.0	78.3	3.1	2.6	100.0	94.3	7,410

¹ Nonusers include pregnant women.

Table 7.18 Pressure to become pregnant

Percentage of currently married women who were ever pressured by their husband/partner or any other family member to become pregnant when they did not want to, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of women pressured to become pregnant by their husband/partner or other family member	Number of women
Age		
15–19	2.5	92
20–24	5.4	839
25–29	5.1	1,293
30–34	5.9	1,427
35–39	6.2	1,482
40–44	5.1	1,304
45–49	6.6	974
Number of living children		
0	1.8	356
1–2	5.4	3,108
3–4	5.5	2,584
5+	7.6	1,361
Family planning use		
Currently using	5.6	5,137
Not currently using ¹	5.9	2,273
Residence		
Urban	4.6	2,166
Rural	6.1	5,244
Province		
City of Kigali	3.2	1,030
Southern Province	6.6	1,595
Western Province	5.4	1,559
Northern Province	3.9	1,173
Eastern Province	7.4	2,053
Education		
No education	5.7	603
Primary	5.9	4,610
Secondary	5.6	1,843
More than secondary	2.8	353
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	7.8	1,419
Second	6.1	1,457
Middle	6.0	1,499
Fourth	4.4	1,526
Highest	4.3	1,509
Total	5.7	7,410

¹ Nonusers include pregnant women.

Table 7.19 Future use of contraception

Percentage distribution of currently married women aged 15–49 years who are not using a contraceptive method by intention to use in the future, according to number of living children, Rwanda DHS 2025

Intention to use in the future	Number of living children ¹					Total
	0	1	2	3	4+	
Intends to use	41.7	70.0	69.0	57.7	45.4	56.6
Unsure	6.9	1.4	0.5	2.2	1.3	1.8
Does not intend to use	51.4	28.7	30.5	40.1	53.3	41.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	208	428	486	348	803	2,273

¹ Includes current pregnancy



Table 7.20.1 Exposure to family planning messages: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who heard or saw specific family planning messages in the last 12 months, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Radio	Television	News-paper/ magazine	Mobile phone	Social media ¹	Poster/ leaflet/ brochure	Outdoor sign or billboard	Communi- ty meeting or event	Health facility	Communi- ty health worker	School	Church or mosque	Work/ relative/ friend	None of the first eight sources	None of these 13 sources	Number of women
Age																
15–19	48.3	11.1	11.9	5.5	8.0	29.8	32.8	23.5	29.8	13.3	45.4	11.4	42.3	30.9	13.5	2,897
20–24	57.4	14.1	13.7	9.3	15.7	35.8	42.1	41.2	53.4	28.6	20.4	15.4	54.3	19.5	7.5	2,489
25–29	60.8	14.9	14.7	8.7	15.3	34.2	43.0	50.4	64.8	41.0	9.1	16.7	57.0	15.5	6.0	2,032
30–34	62.8	15.0	12.1	9.0	12.2	33.8	43.8	58.0	68.3	46.3	7.6	18.9	57.9	14.5	5.4	1,879
35–39	60.7	15.4	11.4	7.9	9.0	32.2	40.3	57.8	65.9	48.2	7.8	22.0	57.7	17.0	6.8	1,911
40–44	56.6	10.8	6.8	5.1	4.4	26.4	35.3	56.7	63.6	45.7	6.3	21.1	54.4	20.6	9.6	1,730
45–49	57.8	9.9	7.5	6.1	4.2	25.0	33.3	60.4	55.4	40.7	5.1	25.0	52.2	18.7	10.6	1,344
Residence																
Urban	55.9	23.2	15.5	8.6	18.4	34.2	43.3	39.2	49.2	27.9	18.3	16.2	56.6	20.9	9.1	4,570
Rural	57.7	8.4	9.7	6.9	6.5	30.2	36.5	50.7	58.2	39.0	16.9	18.4	51.3	20.0	8.5	9,713
Province																
City of Kigali	54.7	22.3	12.9	9.7	18.6	30.4	39.4	36.1	44.7	25.6	16.1	12.2	58.0	21.7	9.7	2,290
Southern Province	60.5	10.2	11.0	5.3	10.9	29.4	32.7	48.1	60.3	38.2	18.4	14.8	43.1	18.3	8.0	3,087
Western Province	55.6	10.0	8.6	6.2	7.7	28.3	36.6	51.9	55.2	37.6	16.5	21.9	55.6	21.0	9.1	2,949
Northern Province	60.3	7.9	12.5	7.3	7.6	39.4	54.9	56.1	59.3	38.9	15.1	24.9	56.4	14.8	5.3	2,089
Eastern Province	55.3	15.1	13.0	8.8	8.3	31.8	35.8	44.1	55.6	35.5	19.1	16.2	54.0	23.6	10.2	3,868
Education																
No education	47.4	4.4	1.8	2.0	0.4	11.6	17.8	51.7	57.5	39.1	3.0	15.4	46.9	26.0	13.4	929
Primary	55.1	8.1	5.9	5.7	3.5	26.3	34.4	49.4	57.8	39.2	8.8	17.5	52.6	22.6	9.6	7,938
Secondary	61.7	19.1	18.8	10.5	17.9	40.9	47.0	42.8	51.1	29.4	32.7	17.4	52.9	16.7	6.5	4,765
More than secondary	62.1	42.0	41.5	13.1	51.5	53.3	59.2	42.1	52.9	28.3	29.6	26.5	66.2	11.0	6.4	651
Wealth quintile																
Lowest	43.9	2.7	4.1	3.2	1.5	19.6	25.5	47.7	59.1	37.6	9.6	13.0	47.2	29.0	11.5	2,642
Second	52.4	4.0	6.3	4.6	2.8	25.3	31.8	48.2	55.3	38.7	14.2	17.7	50.1	24.1	10.1	2,738
Middle	61.9	5.8	9.1	6.8	5.3	32.6	40.8	53.3	59.1	40.1	18.0	19.0	54.7	17.4	7.4	2,746
Fourth	64.5	12.5	13.2	9.2	11.4	37.3	44.8	47.7	55.6	35.0	20.1	19.4	55.4	15.6	6.1	2,885
Highest	61.2	35.7	22.6	12.3	26.9	40.1	47.8	39.8	48.9	27.4	23.3	18.9	56.5	16.8	8.5	3,272
Total	57.1	13.1	11.6	7.4	10.3	31.5	38.7	47.0	55.3	35.4	17.3	17.7	53.0	20.3	8.7	14,283

¹ Social media includes platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Table 7.20.2 Exposure to family planning messages: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who heard or saw specific family planning messages in the last 12 months, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Radio	Television	News-paper/ magazine	Mobile phone	Social media ¹	Poster/ leaflet/ brochure	Outdoor sign or billboard	Communi- ty meeting or event	Health facility	Communi- ty health worker	School	Church or mosque	Work/ relative/ friend	None of the first eight sources	None of these 13 sources	Number of men
Age																
15–19	51.8	11.4	6.0	2.9	9.7	15.1	25.4	26.1	32.9	13.1	46.9	14.9	29.4	31.8	15.9	1,337
20–24	66.0	15.0	13.2	8.7	22.4	21.9	37.3	52.0	43.7	21.5	29.9	18.4	41.3	13.6	8.4	1,019
25–29	68.4	16.7	16.1	7.6	23.8	24.0	43.1	64.3	54.8	31.9	20.9	21.2	49.2	9.9	6.2	754
30–34	72.3	19.7	17.3	8.1	22.3	26.5	42.6	73.9	57.5	41.1	17.9	27.1	50.1	7.6	4.5	766
35–39	75.1	19.1	14.4	8.2	14.2	27.4	43.8	77.5	58.2	42.3	13.0	28.7	48.4	6.1	4.1	779
40–44	77.0	18.6	13.9	7.1	15.6	29.9	45.4	81.6	62.2	49.2	12.1	33.7	51.4	5.4	4.1	731
45–49	69.9	21.5	12.1	4.9	12.1	27.9	37.8	80.1	54.5	46.7	11.4	32.1	43.0	7.7	4.7	505
Residence																
Urban	72.6	29.4	20.2	7.5	28.6	30.1	48.6	57.8	47.0	23.9	26.8	22.3	52.1	9.1	4.9	1,889
Rural	64.1	10.5	9.0	6.1	11.3	20.3	32.9	61.0	50.9	35.5	24.2	24.1	38.8	16.2	9.3	4,002
Province																
City of Kigali	76.0	32.3	18.9	5.7	29.2	31.2	45.6	61.0	48.6	16.5	20.8	17.7	59.8	5.7	2.5	1,020
Southern Province	60.4	11.3	11.3	5.8	13.0	26.8	39.3	54.8	42.0	29.5	25.4	23.3	32.9	16.1	8.0	1,317
Western Province	61.6	10.8	9.2	5.8	10.7	20.6	31.8	58.0	41.6	31.7	22.1	19.9	36.4	18.9	11.0	1,100
Northern Province	68.4	12.7	13.3	5.5	17.3	28.3	40.7	67.1	64.6	36.6	29.0	35.7	49.5	11.2	8.1	862
Eastern Province	69.0	16.9	11.7	8.9	16.2	15.1	34.7	61.1	54.0	41.1	27.3	23.3	42.0	15.5	9.1	1,591
Education																
No education	51.2	7.9	2.2	1.4	1.5	6.5	15.6	66.9	45.5	37.2	2.9	25.3	31.8	19.6	12.1	347
Primary	64.7	11.1	5.6	5.2	7.2	18.4	32.8	63.0	49.5	34.4	14.8	22.9	40.8	16.0	9.9	3,469
Secondary	72.0	22.0	20.2	8.5	29.2	30.8	46.7	52.9	49.6	26.7	45.0	23.2	45.3	10.8	4.6	1,741
More than secondary	78.0	53.2	57.1	16.3	69.5	54.9	68.9	58.6	54.9	25.9	49.7	29.6	67.4	2.4	0.6	334
Wealth quintile																
Lowest	53.1	5.4	4.2	3.1	2.7	12.9	23.2	59.7	48.6	33.7	16.6	20.7	33.4	22.1	11.8	1,003
Second	60.8	5.6	5.3	5.5	6.4	15.4	28.6	61.1	48.2	35.7	18.6	21.2	37.0	18.8	11.0	1,021
Middle	67.4	7.7	8.4	5.8	10.6	19.9	33.9	60.6	52.4	33.7	24.3	23.4	39.2	14.2	9.3	1,167
Fourth	74.3	16.9	12.6	8.2	19.4	28.2	45.4	64.1	51.1	32.9	27.6	26.3	48.5	9.6	5.0	1,281
Highest	73.7	39.3	27.3	9.1	37.3	35.3	51.7	55.2	47.8	25.2	33.8	24.8	52.6	8.4	4.4	1,419
Total 15–49	66.8	16.6	12.6	6.6	16.9	23.4	38.0	60.0	49.6	31.8	25.0	23.5	43.1	13.9	7.9	5,891
50–59	74.7	18.3	12.9	5.5	8.2	24.4	39.2	80.7	56.9	52.0	12.1	32.5	45.2	6.7	4.6	657
Total 15–59	67.6	16.7	12.7	6.5	16.0	23.5	38.1	62.1	50.4	33.8	23.7	24.4	43.3	13.2	7.6	6,548

¹ Social media includes platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



Table 7.21 Contact of nonusers with family planning providers

Among women aged 15–49 years who are not using contraception, percentage who during the last 12 months were visited by a fieldworker who discussed family planning, percentage who visited a health facility and discussed family planning, percentage who visited a health facility but did not discuss family planning, and percentage who did not discuss family planning either with a fieldworker or at a health facility, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who were visited by a fieldworker who discussed family planning	Percentage of women who visited a health facility in the last 12 months and who:		Percentage of women who did not discuss family planning either with a fieldworker or at a health facility	Number of women
		Discussed family planning	Did not discuss family planning		
Age					
15–19	1.8	3.5	32.1	95.5	2,756
20–24	5.5	10.4	41.6	86.9	1,614
25–29	10.6	20.2	43.3	75.9	834
30–34	15.9	26.3	42.7	67.8	674
35–39	17.1	26.2	40.7	68.0	638
40–44	16.0	21.7	37.3	71.4	682
45–49	10.1	13.5	42.6	80.9	783
Residence					
Urban	5.5	10.2	35.7	87.4	2,815
Rural	9.2	14.4	39.6	81.7	5,165
Province					
City of Kigali	3.2	7.8	31.3	90.1	1,437
Southern Province	8.7	12.8	44.4	83.1	1,682
Western Province	11.2	15.5	34.0	79.8	1,721
Northern Province	7.6	12.2	48.3	84.6	1,035
Eastern Province	8.0	14.7	36.6	82.4	2,106
Education					
No education	15.8	20.1	31.0	72.2	443
Primary	9.5	15.7	36.2	80.7	3,972
Secondary	5.5	9.0	40.9	88.2	3,175
More than secondary	3.2	8.3	45.2	90.5	390
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	10.5	16.2	34.0	78.9	1,328
Second	9.3	14.7	36.6	81.7	1,457
Middle	9.1	15.3	38.5	80.8	1,425
Fourth	7.6	12.1	42.7	84.6	1,634
Highest	4.8	8.7	38.5	89.1	2,136
Total	7.9	12.9	38.2	83.7	7,980

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY

Key Findings

- **Current levels:** The infant mortality rate was 27 deaths per 1,000 live births for the 5-year period preceding the survey. Under-5 mortality was 36 deaths per 1,000 live births, and child mortality was 9 deaths per 1,000 live births.
- **Trends:** The under-5 mortality rate decreased from 45 to 36 deaths per 1,000 live births between the 2019–20 RDHS and the 2025 RDHS. During the same period, infant mortality and neonatal mortality also decreased.
- **High-risk fertility behaviour:** 72% of currently married women would have been in an avoidable high-risk category if they had conceived at the time of the survey. In the 5 years preceding the survey, 41% of infants were in an avoidable high-risk category: 21% fell into a single high-risk category, and 20% fell into a multiple high-risk category. Thirty percent of births were not in any high-risk category.

Information on infant and child mortality is relevant to a demographic assessment of a country's population and serves as an important indicator of the country's socioeconomic development and the quality of life of its people. It can also help identify children who may be at higher risk of death and inform strategies to reduce this risk, such as promoting birth spacing.

This chapter presents information on levels, trends, and differentials in perinatal, neonatal, infant, and under-5 mortality rates. It also examines biodemographic factors and fertility behaviours that increase mortality risks for infants and children. The information was collected as part of a retrospective pregnancy history in which female respondents listed all children to whom they had given birth along with each child's date of birth, survivorship status, and current age or age at death.

The quality of mortality estimates calculated from pregnancy histories depends on the mother's ability to recall all of the children she has given birth to, as well as their birth dates and ages at death. Potential data quality problems include:

- The selective omission from pregnancy histories of those births that did not survive, which can result in underestimation of childhood mortality.
- The displacement of birth dates, which may distort mortality trends. This can occur if an interviewer knowingly records a birth as occurring in a year different from the one in which it occurred. This may happen if an interviewer is trying to reduce his or her overall workload, as live births occurring during the 3 years before the interview are subject to a lengthy set of additional questions.
- The quality of reporting of age at death. Misreporting the child's age at death may distort the age pattern of mortality, especially if the net effect of the age misreporting is to transfer deaths from one age bracket to another.

- Any method of measuring childhood mortality that relies on mothers' reports (for example, birth histories) assumes that adult female mortality is not high or, if it is high, that there is little or no correlation between the mortality risks of mothers and those of their children.

Selected indicators of the quality of the mortality data on which the estimates of mortality in this chapter are based are presented in Appendix C, Tables C.5 and C.6.

8.1 Infant and Child Mortality

Neonatal mortality: The probability of dying within the first month of life.

Postneonatal mortality: The probability of dying between the first month of life and the first birthday (computed as the difference between infant and neonatal mortality).

Infant mortality: The probability of dying between birth and the first birthday.

Child mortality: The probability of dying between the first and the fifth birthday.

Under-5 mortality: The probability of dying between birth and the fifth birthday.

During the 5 years immediately preceding the survey, the neonatal mortality rate was 17 deaths per 1,000 live births, the infant mortality rate was 27 deaths per 1,000 live births, and the under-5 mortality rate was 36 deaths per 1,000 live births (**Table 8.1**). Neonatal deaths account for 47% of under-5 mortality. **Table 8.2** presents data disaggregated by sex and residence.

Trends: Under-5 mortality declined from 196 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2000 to 36 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2025 (**Figure 8.1**). Over the same period, the infant mortality rate declined from 107 to 27 deaths per 1,000 live births, and the neonatal mortality rate decreased from 44 to 17 deaths per 1,000 live births.

Table 8.3 shows the relationship between additional background characteristics and child mortality for the 10-year period preceding the survey. A 10-year period was used to increase the reliability of the estimates. Under-5 mortality decreases with increasing mother's education, from 44 deaths per 1,000 live births among children whose mothers have no education to 11 deaths per 1,000 live births among children whose mothers have more than a secondary education (**Figure 8.2**).

Under-5 mortality varies by province, ranging from a high of 47 deaths per 1,000 live births in the Eastern Province to a low of 30 deaths per 1,000 live births in Northern Province (**Map 8.1**).

Figure 8.1 Trends in early childhood mortality rates

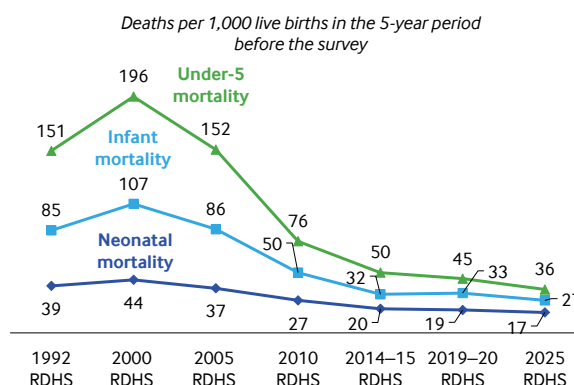
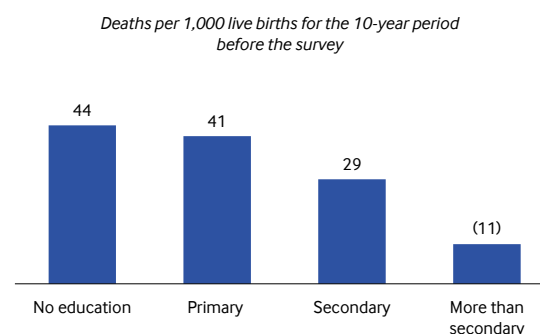
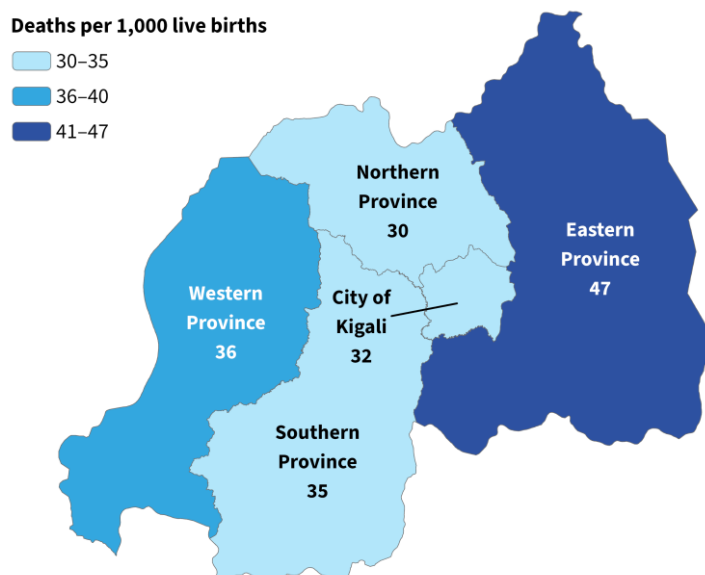


Figure 8.2 Under-5 mortality by mother's education



Map 8.1 Under-5 mortality by province

Deaths per 1,000 live births for the 10-year period before the survey



8.2 Perinatal Mortality

Perinatal mortality rate

Perinatal deaths comprise stillbirths (pregnancy losses occurring after 28 weeks of gestation) and early neonatal deaths (deaths of live births within the first 7 days of life). The perinatal mortality rate is calculated as the number of perinatal deaths per 1,000 pregnancies of 28 or more weeks' duration.

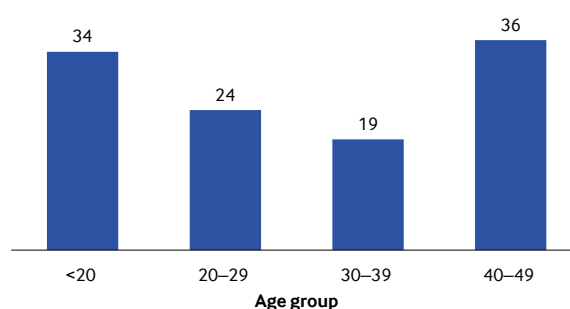
Sample: Number of pregnancies of 28 or more weeks' duration among women aged 15–49 years in the 5 years before the survey

In 2014 the Every Newborn Action Plan, a global multipartner movement aimed at ending preventable maternal and newborn deaths and stillbirths, set a target for national stillbirth rates of 12 or fewer stillbirths per 1,000 births in all countries by 2030 (WHO and UNICEF 2014).

In the 2025 RDHS, 82 stillbirths were recorded, equivalent to 11 stillbirths per 1,000 pregnancies of 28 or more weeks' duration. Similarly, there were 92 early neonatal deaths during the 5-year period preceding the survey, with an equivalent rate of 13 early neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births. This corresponds to a perinatal mortality rate of 24 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies of 28 or more weeks' duration (**Table 8.4**). Perinatal mortality is highest among women aged 40–49 years at childbirth (36 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies) and those who gave birth under age 20 (34 deaths per 1,000 pregnancies) (**Figure 8.3**).

Figure 8.3 Perinatal mortality by mother's age at birth

Deaths per 1,000 pregnancies of 7 or more months' duration in the 5-year period before the survey



8.3 High-risk Fertility Behaviour

The survival of infants and children depends, in part, on the demographic and biological characteristics of their mothers. Typically, the probability of dying in infancy is much greater among children born to mothers who are either too young (under age 18) or too old (over age 34), children born after a short birth interval (less than 24 months after the preceding birth), and children born to mothers of high parity (more than three children). **Table 8.5** presents the percentage distribution of children born in the 5 years preceding the survey by category of elevated risk of mortality, along with associated risk ratios, and the percentage distribution of currently married women by their category of risk if they were to conceive a child at the time of the survey.

Thirty percent of births in the 5 years preceding the survey were not in any high-risk category. Twenty-nine percent of births were in an unavoidable risk category. Overall, 41% of births were in any avoidable high-risk category, of which 21% were in a single high-risk category (mother's age below 18 years, mother's age above 34 years, birth interval less than 24 months, or birth order greater than three) and 20% were in multiple high-risk categories (**Table 8.5**).

The risk ratio denotes the relationship between risk factors and mortality. For example, the risk of dying for a child who falls into any of the avoidable high-risk categories is 1.77 times higher than that for a child not in any high-risk category. Among births in a single high-risk category, the risk ratio is highest for children born to mothers under age 18; children born to mothers less than age 18 are 4.45 times more likely to die than those not in any risk category.

Among births in multiple high-risk categories, the risk of dying is highest for births to mothers above age 34, with a birth interval of less than 24 months, and with a birth order greater than three. Children born to mothers in all three of these categories are 2.66 times more likely to die than those born to mothers who are not in any high-risk category.

Overall, 72% of currently married women aged 15–49 years would have been in an avoidable high-risk category if they had conceived at the time of the survey; 24% would have been in a single high-risk category, and 48% would have been in a multiple high-risk category (**Table 8.5**).

List of Tables

For more information on infant and child mortality, see the following tables:

- **Table 8.1** Early childhood mortality rates
- **Table 8.2** Five-year early childhood mortality rates according to background characteristics
- **Table 8.3** Ten-year early childhood mortality rates according to additional characteristics
- **Table 8.4** Perinatal mortality
- **Table 8.5** High-risk fertility behaviour



Table 8.1 Early childhood mortality rates

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-5 mortality rates for 5-year periods preceding the survey, Rwanda DHS 2025

Years preceding the survey	Approximate calendar years	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality (PNN) ¹	Infant mortality (iq ₀)	Child mortality (4q ₁)	Under-5 mortality (5q ₀)
0–4	2021–2025	17 (CI: 13, 20)	10 (CI: 8, 13)	27 (CI: 23, 32)	9 (CI: 7, 12)	36 (CI: 31, 41)
5–9	2016–2020	18 (CI: 15, 22)	11 (CI: 9, 14)	30 (CI: 25, 34)	9 (CI: 7, 11)	38 (CI: 33, 43)
10–14	2010–2015	17 (CI: 13, 21)	15 (CI: 11, 18)	32 (CI: 27, 37)	14 (CI: 11, 18)	46 (CI: 40, 52)

CI = Confidence interval

¹ Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates**Table 8.2 Five-year early childhood mortality rates according to background characteristics**

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-5 mortality rates for the 5-year period preceding the survey, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality (PNN) ¹	Infant mortality (iq ₀)	Child mortality (4q ₁)	Under-5 mortality (5q ₀)
Child's sex					
Male	20	10	30	11	40
Female	14	11	25	8	32
Residence					
Urban	17	8	25	7	32
Rural	17	11	28	10	38
Total	17	10	27	9	36

¹ Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates

Table 8.3 Ten-year early childhood mortality rates according to additional characteristics

Neonatal, postneonatal, infant, child, and under-5 mortality rates for the 10-year period preceding the survey, according to additional characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Characteristic	Neonatal mortality (NN)	Postneonatal mortality (PNN) ¹	Infant mortality (iq)	Child mortality (cq)	Under-5 mortality (sq)
Mother's age at birth					
<20	33	17	50	12	62
20–29	15	13	28	8	36
30–39	17	6	23	9	32
40–49	23	16	40	(24)	(63)
Birth order					
1	18	15	33	8	40
2–3	17	9	26	8	34
4–6	16	8	23	10	34
7+	30	18	48	24	71
Previous birth interval²					
<2 years	30	17	47	16	63
2 years	14	11	24	9	33
3 years	13	5	17	10	27
4+ years	17	9	26	8	34
Province					
City of Kigali	14	13	27	5	32
Southern Province	17	10	27	8	35
Western Province	17	10	28	9	36
Northern Province	14	8	22	8	30
Eastern Province	22	13	34	13	47
Mother's education					
No education	17	10	27	18	44
Primary	20	12	31	10	41
Secondary	14	10	25	4	29
More than secondary	8	2	10	(1)	(11)
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	18	14	32	16	48
Second	18	10	29	9	37
Middle	17	8	26	7	33
Fourth	20	14	34	10	44
Highest	13	7	20	2	22

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 250–499 unweighted children.

¹ Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates

² Excludes first-order births

Table 8.4 Perinatal mortality

Number of stillbirths, number of early neonatal deaths, stillbirth rate, early neonatal death rate, perinatal mortality rate, and the ratio of stillbirths to early neonatal deaths for the 5-year period preceding the survey, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Number of stillbirths ¹	Number of early neonatal deaths ²	Stillbirth rate ³	Early neonatal death rate ⁴	Perinatal mortality rate ⁵	Number of pregnancies of 28+ weeks' duration ⁶	Ratio of stillbirths to early neonatal deaths
Mother's age at birth							
<20	7	13	12	22	34	573	0.6
20–29	47	34	14	10	24	3,412	1.4
30–39	19	34	7	12	19	2,784	0.6
40–49	9	12	15	21	36	583	0.8
Previous pregnancy interval in months⁷							
First pregnancy	25	22	12	10	22	2,156	1.2
<15	14	16	15	17	32	936	0.9
15–26	10	14	10	14	24	980	0.7
27–38	7	12	8	14	21	920	0.6
39+	25	29	11	12	23	2,362	0.9
Residence							
Urban	23	31	10	14	24	2,229	0.7
Rural	59	61	11	12	23	5,124	1.0
Province							
City of Kigali	15	17	14	16	30	1,056	0.9
Southern Province	15	15	10	9	19	1,577	1.0
Western Province	25	16	15	10	25	1,610	1.5
Northern Province	4	12	3	12	16	1,008	0.3
Eastern Province	24	32	11	16	27	2,101	0.7
Mother's education							
No education	4	5	9	12	21	458	0.8
Primary	53	66	12	15	26	4,491	0.8
Secondary	25	20	12	10	22	2,081	1.3
More than secondary	0	1	0	4	4	323	0.0
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	23	18	14	11	25	1,667	1.2
Second	11	19	8	14	21	1,454	0.6
Middle	21	18	14	13	27	1,435	1.1
Fourth	18	21	12	15	27	1,435	0.8
Highest	10	15	7	11	18	1,361	0.6
Total	82	92	11	13	24	7,353	0.9

Note: Respondents may choose to report the duration of their pregnancy in either weeks or months.

¹ Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are foetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months.

² Early neonatal deaths are deaths at age 0–6 days among live-born children.

³ Stillbirth rate: the number of stillbirths divided by the number of pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks, expressed per 1,000

⁴ Early neonatal rate: the number of early neonatal deaths divided by the number of live births, expressed per 1,000

⁵ Perinatal mortality rate: the sum of the number of stillbirths and early neonatal deaths divided by the number of pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks, expressed per 1,000

⁶ Includes pregnancies lasting 7 or more months when duration of pregnancy is reported in months

⁷ Pregnancy interval categories correspond to birth interval categories of <24 months, 24–35 months, 36–47 months, and 48+ months assuming a pregnancy duration of 9 months.



Table 8.5 High-risk fertility behaviour

Percentage distribution of children born in the 5 years preceding the survey by category of elevated risk of mortality and the risk ratio, and percentage distribution of currently married women by category of risk if they were to conceive a child at the time of the survey, Rwanda DHS 2025

Risk category	Births in the 5 years preceding the survey		Percentage of currently married women ¹
	Percentage of births	Risk ratio	
Not in any high-risk category	29.9	1.00	24.8^a
Unavoidable risk category			
First-order births between age 18 and age 34	29.2	1.20	3.5
In any avoidable high-risk category	40.9	1.77	71.7
Single high-risk category			
Mother's age <18 only	2.3	4.45	0.1
Mother's age >34 only	6.1	1.40	8.1
Birth interval <24 months only	3.8	1.61	9.6
Birth order >3 only	8.4	1.24	6.3
Subtotal	20.5	1.71	24.2
Multiple high-risk category			
Age <18 and birth interval <24 months ²	0.0	*	0.0
Age >34 and birth interval <24 months	0.3	*	0.7
Age >34 and birth order >3	16.6	1.80	37.5
Age >34 and birth interval <24 months and birth order >3	1.8	2.66	5.7
Birth interval <24 months and birth order >3	1.6	1.61	3.5
Subtotal	20.3	1.83	47.5
Total	100.0	na	100.0
Subtotals by individual avoidable high-risk category			
Mother's age <18	2.3	4.37	0.1
Mother's age >34	24.8	1.74	52.1
Birth interval <24 months	7.5	1.79	19.6
Birth order >3	28.4	1.68	53.1
Number of births/women	7,271	na	7,410

Note: Risk ratio is the ratio of the proportion dead among births in a specific high-risk category to the proportion dead among births not in any high-risk category. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

¹ Women are assigned to risk categories according to the status they would have at the birth of a child if they were to conceive at the time of the survey: current age less than 17 years and 3 months or older than 34 years and 2 months, latest birth less than 15 months ago, or latest birth being of order 3 or higher.

² Includes the category age <18 and birth order >3

^a Includes sterilized women

MATERNAL AND NEWBORN HEALTH CARE

Key Findings

- **Antenatal care coverage:** 95% of women aged 15–49 years received antenatal care (ANC) from a skilled provider, and 78% had at least four ANC visits for their most recent live birth. Nurses and midwives were the most common service providers (89%).
- **Institutional deliveries:** 98% of live births in the 2 years prior to the survey occurred in health facilities and 2% occurred at home. A majority of births were attended by nurses and midwives (64%).
- **Caesarean section deliveries:** 24% of live births were delivered via caesarean section.
- **Postnatal care:** 61% of both mothers and newborns received postnatal checks within the first 2 days after birth.

Health care services during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period are essential for the survival and well-being of both the mother and the infant. Antenatal care (ANC) helps reduce health risks for mothers and infants through pregnancy monitoring and screening for complications. Giving birth at a health facility, under skilled medical supervision and hygienic conditions, reduces the risk of complications and infections during labour and delivery. Timely postnatal care provides an opportunity to treat delivery-related complications and to educate the mother on caring for herself and her newborn.

The first part of this chapter presents information on ANC providers, number and timing of ANC visits, and various components of care. The second part focuses on childbirth, providing information on place of delivery, assistance during delivery, and caesarean deliveries. The third part focuses on postnatal care, presenting information on postnatal health checks for mothers and newborns as well as men's involvement in maternal health care. The final section covers issues that affect women's health regardless of their maternal status, including whether women have been examined for breast or cervical cancer, problems they experience when accessing health care, and the distance from their home to the nearest health facility.

9.1 Antenatal Care Coverage and Content

9.1.1 Skilled Providers

Antenatal care (ANC) from a skilled provider

Pregnancy care received from skilled providers, including doctors, nurses/midwives, and auxiliary midwives.

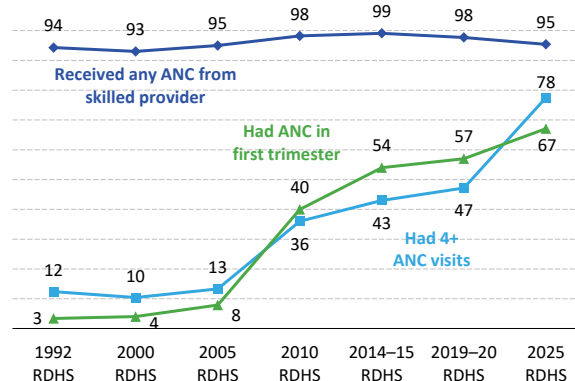
Sample: Women aged 15–49 years who had a live birth or stillbirth in the 2 years before the survey

Overall, 95% of women aged 15–49 years who had a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey received ANC from a skilled provider for their most recent birth. The majority of women (89%) received ANC from nurses/midwives, while only 4% of women received ANC from doctors and 2% from auxiliary midwives. Four percent of women did not receive any ANC (Table 9.1).

Trends: As shown in Figure 9.1, the percentage of women with a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey who received ANC from a skilled provider increased from 94% in the 1992 RDHS to almost universal coverage in the 2014–15 RDHS and remains high despite a slight decline to 95% in the 2025 RDHS.

Figure 9.1 Trends in antenatal care coverage

Percentage of women age 15–49 who had a live birth in the 2 years before the survey (for the most recent birth)



9.1.2 Timing and Number of Antenatal Care Visits

Among women with a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey, 78% had four or more ANC visits during their most recent pregnancy resulting in a live birth, while 20% had eight or more ANC visits (Table 9.2). Sixty-seven percent of women received ANC during their first trimester.

Trends: The percentage of women who had four or more ANC visits increased from 12% in the 1992 RDHS to 78% in the 2025 RDHS, while the percentage of women who received their first ANC during the first trimester increased from 3% to 67% (Figure 9.1).

9.2 Components of Antenatal Care

Components of antenatal care

Specific antenatal care services performed by a health care provider include measuring blood pressure, taking a urine sample, taking a blood sample, listening for the baby's heartbeat, counselling about the mother's diet, counselling about breastfeeding, and asking about vaginal bleeding.

Sample—quality of care indicator: Women aged 15–49 years who had a live birth or stillbirth in the 2 years before the survey and had at least one ANC visit

Sample—population-based indicator: All women aged 15–49 years who had a live birth or stillbirth in the 2 years before the survey

The effectiveness of ANC as an intervention for identifying issues during pregnancy that could adversely affect pregnancy outcomes is largely determined by the components of ANC services offered by health care providers.

As a part of ANC, certain interventions and tests are recommended at each contact. These include the following:

- Measuring blood pressure. Taking a woman's blood pressure at each antenatal care visit is essential for screening and monitoring gestational hypertension or preeclampsia.
- Conducting urine and blood tests. These tests assess signs of infection or other diseases and conditions that could negatively affect the woman or her baby during or after pregnancy.
- Listening to the baby's heartbeat. This can confirm that the fetus is alive and provide reassurance to the mother.
- Counselling on maternal nutrition, specifically on healthy eating during pregnancy and breastfeeding. These counselling messages promote healthy weight gain during pregnancy and can help the pregnant woman breastfeed her newborn early.
- Asking about vaginal bleeding. Light bleeding or spotting is common, especially during the first few months of a pregnancy. However, heavy bleeding indicates something more serious; any pregnant woman experiencing heavy bleeding should consult a health care provider.

Table 9.3.1 presents the percentage of women with a live birth or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey who reported having at least one ANC visit and who received specified ANC services. The results in this table measure the quality of ANC services received by these women. **Table 9.3.2** presents the percentage of all women with a live birth or stillbirth in the last 2 years preceding the survey who received specified ANC services, regardless of whether they reported an ANC visit. These results measure coverage of key ANC interventions among the population of women in need of them.

Among women aged 15–49 years who received ANC for their most recent live birth, 97% had their blood pressure measured, 99% each had a blood sample taken and had their baby's heartbeat checked, and 98% reported having a urine sample taken. Approximately three in four women received counselling on their diet (78%) and on breastfeeding (73%) (**Table 9.3.1**).

9.2.1 Food or Cash Assistance, Deworming, and Iron-containing Supplementation during Pregnancy

Food and cash assistance programmes provide assistance to pregnant and lactating women to promote healthy diets and address malnutrition. During pregnancy, women have higher micronutrient needs and are at risk of micronutrient deficiencies, including iron deficiency, which is a primary cause of anemia. Severe anemia can place the mother and the baby in danger by increasing the risk of blood loss during labour, as well as the risks of preterm delivery, low birth weight, and perinatal mortality (Haider et al. 2013). To help address maternal anemia, interventions provide iron tablets or syrup and/or iron-containing multiple micronutrient supplements to pregnant women (WHO 2016a).

Seven percent of women aged 15–49 years with a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey received food and cash assistance during their most recent pregnancy resulting in a live birth, 40% took deworming medicines, and 92% took some form of iron supplementation (**Table 9.4**). Overall, 36% of women took iron supplements for 90 days or more, while 9% took them for more than 6 months.



9.2.2 Source of Iron-containing Supplements

Information on sources of iron-containing supplements can increase understanding of their distribution patterns.

Among women aged 15–49 years who took some form of iron supplementation during the pregnancy of their most recent live birth, 98% obtained supplements from public sector sources and 3% from private medical sector sources (**Table 9.5**). Within the public sector, government health centres were the predominant source (95%).

9.3 Protection against Neonatal Tetanus

Protection against neonatal tetanus

The number of tetanus toxoid injections needed to protect a baby from neonatal tetanus depends on the mother's vaccinations. A birth is protected against neonatal tetanus if the mother has received any of the following:

- Two tetanus toxoid injections during the pregnancy
- Two or more injections, the last one within 3 years of the birth
- Three or more injections, the last one within 5 years of the birth
- Four or more injections, the last one within 10 years of the birth
- Five or more injections at any time prior to the birth

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years with a live birth in the 2 years before the survey

Tetanus toxoid injections are administered during pregnancy to prevent neonatal tetanus, which remains a major cause of early infant mortality in many low-income countries. Neonatal tetanus is often caused by lack of access to hygienic delivery procedures.

Forty-three percent of women aged 15–49 years received two or more tetanus toxoid injections for their most recent live birth. Overall, 78% of women had their most recent live births protected against neonatal tetanus (**Table 9.6**).

Trends: The percentage of women whose most recent live births were protected against neonatal tetanus remained stable at 78% between the 2019–20 RDHS and the 2025 RDHS.

9.4 Delivery Services

9.4.1 Institutional Deliveries

Institutional deliveries

Deliveries that occur in a health facility.

Sample: All live births and/or stillbirths in the 2 years before the survey

Among live births or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, 98% were delivered in a health facility. Specifically, 95% of births occurred in a public facility, 3% in a private health facility, and 2% at home (**Table 9.7.1**). Almost all births to women with at least a primary education occurred in a health facility (98%–100%), as compared with 94% of births to women with no education.

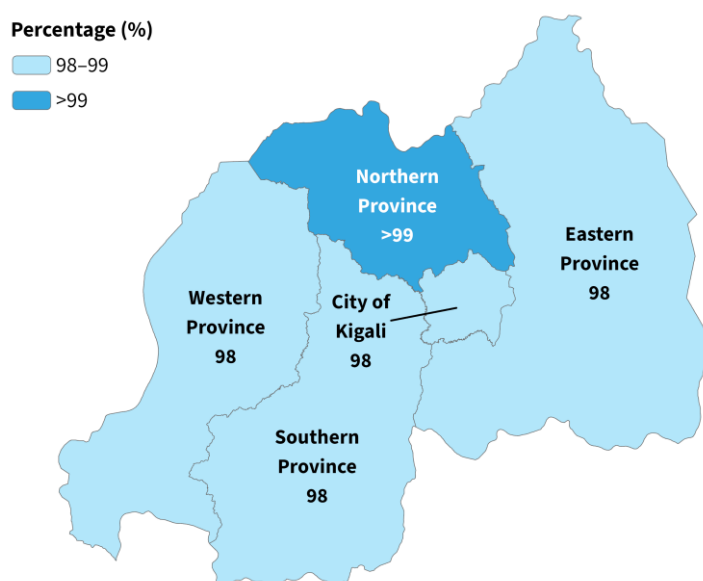


Table 9.7.2 shows the main reasons reported by women who did not give birth in a health facility for not delivering their most recent child in a health facility.

The percentages of live births occurring in health facilities show little variation among the provinces (**Map 9.1**).

Map 9.1 Institutional deliveries by province

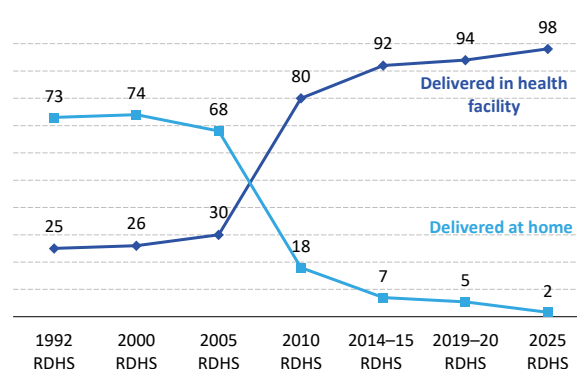
Percentage of live births in the 2 years before the survey that were delivered in a health facility



Trends: Institutional deliveries increased from 25% in the 1992 RDHS to 98% in the 2025 RDHS. Over the same period, home deliveries declined from 73% to 2% (**Figure 9.2**).

Figure 9.2 Trends in place of birth

Percentage of live births in the 2 years before the survey



9.4.2 Delivery by Caesarean

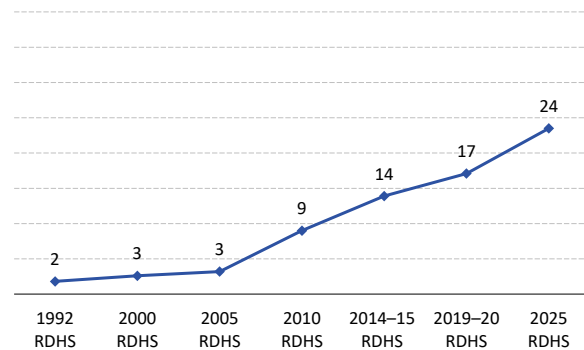
Caesarean section, also known as C-section, is a surgical intervention used to prevent or treat life-threatening maternal or perinatal complications. Appropriate use of caesarean sections reduces maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality as well as complications such as obstetric fistula. However, the World Health Organization (WHO) advises that caesarean sections be done only when medically necessary. Use of caesarean sections without medical need can place women at risk of short- and long-term health problems. WHO does not recommend a target rate for caesarean deliveries; however, research conducted by WHO has shown that caesarean section rates above 10% are not associated with reductions in maternal and newborn mortality rates (WHO 2015).

Nearly one in every four (24%) live births in the 2 years preceding the survey were delivered via caesarean section (**Table 9.8**).

Trends: The percentage of live births in the 2 years preceding the survey delivered via caesarean section has increased steadily over time, from 2% in the 1992 RDHS to 24% in the 2025 RDHS (**Figure 9.3**).

Figure 9.3 Trends in caesarean section births

Percentage of live births in the 2 years before the survey delivered by caesarean section



9.4.3 Skilled Assistance during Delivery

Skilled assistance during delivery

Births delivered with the assistance of doctors, nurses/midwives, and auxiliary midwives.

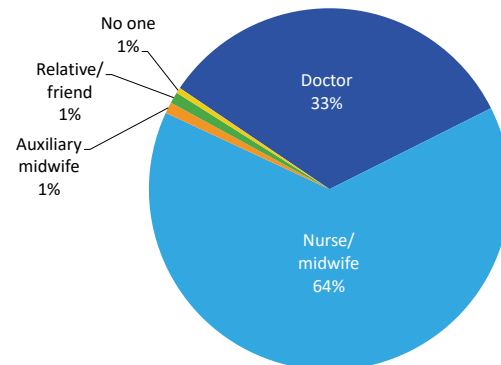
Sample: All live births and/or stillbirths in the 2 years before the survey

Obstetric care provided by a health professional during delivery is recognized as a critical element in managing complications that may arise during childbirth and in reducing maternal and neonatal mortality.

Among live births and/or stillbirths in the 2 years preceding the survey, 64% were delivered by midwives or nurses, 33% by doctors, 1% by an auxiliary midwife, and 1% by a relative/friend; less than 1% were delivered without any assistance (**Table 9.9** and **Figure 9.4**). Overall, 98% of live births in the 2 years preceding the survey were delivered by a skilled provider.

Figure 9.4 Assistance during delivery

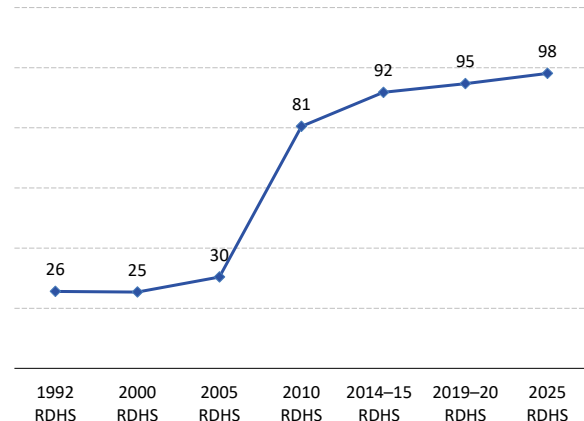
Percentage distribution of live births in the 2 years before the survey



Trends: The percentage of live births assisted by a skilled provider increased from 26% in the 1992 DHS to 98% in the 2025 RDHS (**Figure 9.5**).

Figure 9.5 Trends in skilled attendance at delivery

Percentage of live births in the 2 years preceding the survey assisted by a skilled provider



Duration of Stay at Health Facility

Among women who delivered via caesarean section for their most recent live birth, 82% stayed in the health facility for 3 or more days. Among women with vaginal live births, 73% stayed in the health facility for less than 3 days, the majority of whom (67%) remained for 1 to 2 days in the health facility (**Table 9.10**).

9.5 Postnatal Care

9.5.1 Postnatal Health Check for Mothers

Among women aged 15–49 years with a live birth and/or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, 68% received a postnatal check during the first 2 days after their most recent live birth. The majority of these checks occurred within 4 hours of delivery (39%) (**Table 9.11**).

Trends: The percentage of women with a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey who received a postnatal check within 2 days after birth increased from 18% in the 2010 RDHS to 43% in the 2014–15 RDHS and 70% in the 2019–20 RDHS before dropping slightly to 68% in the 2025 RDHS.

Type of Provider

Among women with a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey, 67% received a postnatal check from a doctor or a nurse/midwife during the first 2 days after birth, while 1% received their first postnatal check from auxiliary midwives or community health workers (**Table 9.12**).

Content of Care

Among women aged 15–49 years with a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey, 55% had their blood pressure checked, 54% were informed about vaginal bleeding, and 74% received family planning counselling during the first 2 days after birth from a health care provider. Overall, 44% of women had all three checks performed by a health care provider during the first 2 days after birth (**Table 9.13**).

9.5.2 Postnatal Health Check for Newborns

Seventy-two percent of newborns received a postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth, among whom 45% were checked less than 4 hours after delivery. Twenty-seven percent of newborns received no postnatal check (**Table 9.14**).

Type of Provider

Among newborns who received a postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth, 71% were examined by a doctor or a nurse/midwife. Auxiliary midwives provided the first postnatal check for 1% of newborns (**Table 9.15**).

Content of Care

Postnatal breastfeeding counselling supports exclusive breastfeeding. Face-to-face breastfeeding counselling facilitates observation of infant positioning and latch, thereby allowing tailored breastfeeding counselling and support (WHO 2018).

Among newborns, 54% had their umbilical cord examined, 48% had their temperature measured, and 98% had their weight measured. Regarding postnatal counselling, 45% of mothers of newborns were counselled on newborn danger signs, 63% were counselled on breastfeeding, and 69% were observed during breastfeeding. Overall, the five key signal functions were performed in the first 2 days after delivery for 33% of the most recent live births in the 2 years preceding the survey (**Table 9.16**).



9.5.3 Postnatal Health Checks for Mothers and Newborns

Overall, 61% of both mothers and newborns received a postnatal check within the first 2 days after delivery, while in 21% of live births neither the mother nor the newborn received a postnatal check (**Table 9.17**).

9.6 Men's Involvement in Maternal Health Care

Among men aged 15–49 years whose youngest child was aged 0–2 years, 98% reported that the child's mother had received an antenatal check-up during the pregnancy, and among these men 87% reported having been present during an antenatal check-up. Additionally, 98% of men reported that their child was delivered in a health facility, and 78% accompanied the child's mother to the health facility (**Table 9.18**).

9.7 Breast Cancer Examinations

Breast cancer examination

Women were asked whether a doctor or other health care provider had ever examined their breasts to check for cancer. The examination may include either a clinical breast exam, during which health care providers use their hands to feel for lumps or other changes, or the use of medical equipment to produce an image of the breast tissue, such as a mammogram.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years

Overall, among women aged 15–49 years, 11% have been examined for breast cancer by a doctor or a health care worker (**Table 9.19**). The percentage of women who received breast and cervical cancer examinations was lower among younger women aged 15–29 years (6%) than among older women aged 30–49 years (16%).

9.8 Knowledge of and Experience with Cervical Cancer Exam

In Rwanda, cervical cancer and breast cancer are the most diagnosed cancers among women (Ferlay et al., 2024). Screening and prevention are essential tools in controlling noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). Both cervical and breast cancers can be cured if diagnosed at an early stage.

Cervical cancer examination

To be checked for cervical cancer, a woman is asked to lie on her back with her legs apart. The health care worker then uses a brush or swab to collect a sample from inside the cervix. The sample is sent to a laboratory for testing. This test is known as a Pap smear or human papillomavirus (HPV) test. Another method is visual inspection with acetic acid (VIA). In this test, the health care worker applies vinegar to the cervix to see if there is a reaction. Women were asked whether a doctor or other health care provider had ever tested them for cervical cancer. Information on the type of screening test used was not collected.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years

Overall, 93% of women aged 15–49 years have heard of cervical cancer, 80% are aware that there is a test for cervical cancer, and 19% reported ever being tested for cervical cancer. Among those who have ever been tested, 84% were tested within the past 3 years. Of the women tested, 2% received positive results for cervical cancer, 1% received inconclusive results, and 16% did not receive their test results (**Table 9.20**).

Among women with abnormal or inconclusive cervical cancer test results, 69% received treatment (**Table 9.21**).



9.9 Problems in Accessing Health Care

Problems in accessing health care

Women were asked whether each of the following factors is a big problem in seeking medical advice or treatment for themselves when they are sick:

- Getting permission to go to the doctor
- Getting money for advice or treatment
- Distance to a health facility
- Not wanting to go alone

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years

Many factors can prevent women from obtaining medical advice or treatment for themselves when they are sick. Information on such factors is particularly important in understanding and addressing the barriers women may face in seeking care during pregnancy and at the time of delivery.

Nearly half of women (48%) reported that they have at least one problem in accessing health care. The most common is getting money for treatment (36%), followed by distance to the health facility (29%). Twelve percent of women mentioned not wanting to go alone, and 4% mentioned getting permission to go for treatment (**Table 9.22**).

9.10 Distance and Means of Transport to the Nearest Health Facility

Distance to the nearest health facility is one of the major factors influencing health-seeking practices among women in Rwanda. In the 2025 RDHS, women were asked to provide details on travel time to the nearest health facility as well as the means of transport used to reach the facility.

Sixty-two percent of women reported that it takes them less than 1 hour to travel to the nearest health facility, with 30% reporting a travel time of less than 30 minutes and 32% a travel time between 30 minutes and 59 minutes. Ten percent of women travel 2 hours or more to the nearest health facility.

Only 10% of women travel to the nearest health facility using a motorized vehicle, while 90% use a nonmotorized means of transport (**Table 9.23**).



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Table 9.1 Antenatal care

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years who had a live birth and/or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey by antenatal care (ANC) provider during pregnancy for the most recent live birth or stillbirth and percentage receiving antenatal care from a skilled provider for the most recent live birth or stillbirth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Antenatal care provider						No ANC	Total	Percentage receiving antenatal care from a skilled provider ¹	Number of women
	Doctor	Nurse/ midwife	Auxiliary midwife	Traditional birth attendant	Community health worker	Other				
LIVE BIRTHS										
Age at birth										
<20	2.5	89.7	2.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	5.0	100.0	94.4	212
20–34	4.3	89.6	1.9	0.1	0.1	0.0	4.0	100.0	95.8	1,936
35–49	4.7	87.4	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.4	100.0	94.6	706
Birth order ²										
1	4.4	89.3	1.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	4.5	100.0	95.4	918
2–3	4.9	88.4	2.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	4.6	100.0	95.2	1,168
4–5	3.2	90.3	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	4.1	100.0	95.8	542
6+	3.5	88.2	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	100.0	95.4	227
Residence										
Urban	9.2	82.8	2.7	0.1	0.2	0.1	5.0	100.0	94.6	850
Rural	2.2	91.7	1.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	4.2	100.0	95.7	2,004
Province										
City of Kigali	7.8	86.5	0.6	0.0	0.4	0.0	4.7	100.0	94.9	400
Southern Province	4.8	91.6	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.7	100.0	99.2	616
Western Province	1.8	93.1	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	100.0	97.6	598
Northern Province	2.7	82.6	1.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	12.8	100.0	86.9	390
Eastern Province	4.7	88.5	2.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	4.6	100.0	95.2	851
Education										
No education	0.0	92.5	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	100.0	94.8	141
Primary	1.5	91.4	2.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	4.9	100.0	94.9	1,723
Secondary	5.7	88.4	1.9	0.0	0.2	0.1	3.8	100.0	96.0	883
More than secondary	43.1	52.0	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	100.0	98.9	108
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	1.0	92.3	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	100.0	95.4	684
Second	2.0	91.4	2.5	0.2	0.3	0.0	3.6	100.0	95.9	586
Middle	1.8	91.8	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.1	100.0	94.9	536
Fourth	2.3	91.8	1.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	4.2	100.0	95.6	561
Highest	16.7	75.4	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	4.8	100.0	95.1	487
Total	4.3	89.0	2.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	4.4	100.0	95.4	2,854
STILLBIRTHS										
Total	(5.9)	(92.7)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(1.4)	100.0	(98.6)	32
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ³										
Total	4.3	89.1	2.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	4.4	100.0	95.4	2,880

Note: If more than one source of ANC was mentioned, only the provider with the highest qualifications is considered in this tabulation. Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Skilled provider includes doctors, nurses/midwives, and auxiliary midwives.

² Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

³ For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.2 Number of antenatal care visits and timing of first visit

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years who had a live birth and/or a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey by number of antenatal care (ANC) visits during the pregnancy for the most recent live birth or stillbirth, and by the timing of the first visit; and among women with ANC, median months pregnant at first visit, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Number of ANC visits						Total	4+ ANC visits	Number of months pregnant at time of first ANC visit						Total	Number of women	Median months pregnant at first visit (for those with ANC)	Number of women with ANC
	None	1	2–3	4–7	8+	Don't know			No ante-natal care	<4	4–6	7+	Don't know					
LIVE BIRTHS																		
Age at birth																		
<20	5.0	3.2	21.4	53.0	17.3	0.0	100.0	70.3	5.0	56.3	33.5	4.0	1.2	100.0	212	3.7	201	
20–34	4.0	1.7	14.4	58.2	21.5	0.1	100.0	79.7	4.0	70.3	22.9	2.7	0.1	100.0	1,936	3.3	1,858	
35–49	5.4	1.6	19.5	58.8	14.8	0.0	100.0	73.6	5.4	61.4	27.3	5.9	0.0	100.0	706	3.6	668	
Birth order ¹																		
1	4.5	1.6	14.2	55.3	24.2	0.2	100.0	79.5	4.5	67.4	25.1	2.8	0.3	100.0	918	3.3	877	
2–3	4.6	1.7	14.7	60.0	19.1	0.0	100.0	79.1	4.6	72.0	20.4	2.8	0.2	100.0	1,168	3.3	1,115	
4–5	4.1	2.5	20.2	57.7	15.5	0.0	100.0	73.1	4.1	61.2	29.9	4.8	0.0	100.0	542	3.6	520	
6+	4.6	1.4	22.4	59.1	12.5	0.0	100.0	71.6	4.6	54.1	33.7	7.6	0.0	100.0	227	3.8	216	
Residence																		
Urban	5.0	2.2	20.1	52.7	19.9	0.2	100.0	72.6	5.0	65.4	24.4	5.1	0.1	100.0	850	3.4	808	
Rural	4.2	1.7	14.5	60.2	19.4	0.0	100.0	79.6	4.2	67.7	24.9	2.9	0.2	100.0	2,004	3.4	1,920	
Province																		
City of Kigali	4.7	2.0	25.6	50.2	17.1	0.4	100.0	67.3	4.7	56.8	30.1	8.4	0.0	100.0	400	3.7	382	
Southern Province	0.7	2.2	13.6	62.9	20.5	0.0	100.0	83.4	0.7	71.8	23.7	3.6	0.2	100.0	616	3.2	611	
Western Province	2.4	2.3	16.1	57.0	22.3	0.0	100.0	79.3	2.4	68.8	27.0	1.8	0.0	100.0	598	3.4	583	
Northern Province	12.8	0.9	10.2	57.3	18.8	0.0	100.0	76.0	12.8	68.5	16.3	2.4	0.0	100.0	390	3.1	340	
Eastern Province	4.6	1.5	16.4	59.0	18.4	0.0	100.0	77.4	4.6	66.5	25.3	3.0	0.5	100.0	851	3.4	812	
Education																		
No education	5.2	3.1	27.4	50.4	13.9	0.0	100.0	64.2	5.2	51.9	35.6	7.2	0.0	100.0	141	3.8	134	
Primary	4.9	2.1	16.2	59.9	16.8	0.0	100.0	76.8	4.9	65.4	25.7	3.6	0.3	100.0	1,723	3.4	1,638	
Secondary	3.8	1.2	15.5	55.9	23.7	0.0	100.0	79.5	3.8	70.7	22.5	3.1	0.0	100.0	883	3.3	849	
More than secondary	1.1	0.0	7.2	53.3	36.9	1.4	100.0	90.2	1.1	83.6	13.0	2.2	0.0	100.0	108	2.9	107	
Wealth quintile																		
Lowest	4.6	2.7	19.0	57.4	16.3	0.0	100.0	73.7	4.6	63.2	26.6	5.3	0.3	100.0	684	3.5	653	
Second	3.6	1.8	15.2	59.6	19.8	0.0	100.0	79.3	3.6	68.3	26.1	1.8	0.2	100.0	586	3.3	564	
Middle	5.1	2.7	13.6	61.3	17.4	0.0	100.0	78.7	5.1	65.3	25.0	4.3	0.3	100.0	536	3.4	509	
Fourth	4.2	1.2	18.8	56.3	19.5	0.0	100.0	75.8	4.2	64.3	27.9	3.5	0.2	100.0	561	3.5	538	
Highest	4.8	0.3	13.2	55.1	26.2	0.3	100.0	81.3	4.8	76.0	16.7	2.5	0.0	100.0	487	3.2	464	
Total	4.4	1.8	16.2	58.0	19.5	0.1	100.0	77.5	4.4	67.0	24.7	3.6	0.2	100.0	2,854	3.4	2,727	
STILLBIRTHS																		
Total	(1.4)	(9.3)	(36.3)	(41.7)	(11.3)	(0.0)	100.0	(53.0)	(1.4)	(80.6)	(18.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	100.0	32	(3.1)	32	
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ²																		
Total	4.4	1.8	16.4	57.8	19.5	0.1	100.0	77.3	4.4	67.1	24.7	3.5	0.2	100.0	2,880	3.4	2,753	

Note: Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

² For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.3.1 Components of antenatal care among women receiving ANC

Among women aged 15–49 years receiving antenatal care (ANC) for the most recent live birth and/or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage receiving specific antenatal services from a health care provider, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Among women who received antenatal care for their most recent live birth or stillbirth in the last 2 years, percentage who received specific services during ANC from a health care provider:								Number of women with ANC for their most recent live birth and/or stillbirth in the last 2 years
	Blood pressure measured	Urine sample taken	Blood sample taken	Baby's heartbeat checked	Counselled about maternal diet	Counselled about breast-feeding	Asked about vaginal bleeding	Mid-upper-arm circumference measured	
LIVE BIRTHS									
Age at birth									
<20	93.7	96.9	97.7	98.3	71.1	66.7	60.6	81.3	201
20–34	97.0	98.4	98.8	98.7	78.0	72.9	65.2	82.8	1,858
35–49	97.7	97.8	99.1	99.0	78.6	75.9	69.3	84.0	668
Birth order ¹									
1	96.1	98.3	98.5	98.9	75.9	68.0	60.1	81.8	877
2–3	97.4	98.5	99.0	98.6	77.7	73.9	66.3	81.9	1,115
4–5	97.1	97.5	99.4	99.0	78.9	77.8	72.4	86.0	520
6+	97.2	97.0	97.3	98.4	80.8	79.3	72.0	86.0	216
Residence									
Urban	98.3	98.1	99.3	99.1	77.7	71.8	66.3	79.0	808
Rural	96.3	98.1	98.6	98.6	77.6	73.8	65.7	84.7	1,920
Province									
City of Kigali	99.5	99.0	99.7	99.8	85.2	80.1	74.1	80.8	382
Southern Province	97.8	98.9	98.9	98.7	73.2	70.7	58.9	84.3	611
Western Province	97.7	98.7	98.9	98.8	81.6	77.0	72.0	89.5	583
Northern Province	99.1	98.6	99.3	99.6	77.0	72.2	66.0	82.0	340
Eastern Province	93.5	96.5	97.9	97.9	74.8	69.4	62.9	78.7	812
Education									
No education	97.6	98.0	97.5	97.5	77.0	76.8	71.2	86.1	134
Primary	96.5	97.7	98.5	98.7	76.4	72.8	64.7	83.7	1,638
Secondary	97.4	99.1	99.4	99.0	80.2	73.5	66.8	82.2	849
More than secondary	99.1	97.7	99.4	98.4	76.6	70.8	69.7	74.7	107
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	95.7	97.3	97.9	97.6	73.6	70.0	64.6	85.1	653
Second	96.7	98.1	98.1	98.7	77.1	74.7	65.4	85.3	564
Middle	96.8	98.5	99.5	98.9	79.5	73.8	66.8	83.1	509
Fourth	97.5	98.8	99.5	99.3	78.0	74.6	64.9	81.4	538
Highest	98.2	98.1	99.3	99.5	81.4	73.5	68.5	78.9	464
Total	96.9	98.1	98.8	98.7	77.6	73.2	65.9	83.0	2,727
STILLBIRTHS									
Total	(96.0)	(88.8)	(92.9)	(96.0)	(66.6)	(62.4)	(66.9)	(80.4)	32
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ²									
Total	96.9	98.0	98.7	98.7	77.5	73.1	65.9	82.9	2,753

Note: The denominator for this table includes all women with a birth in the 2 years preceding the survey who received ANC for that birth. Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

² For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.3.2 Components of antenatal care among all women

Among all women aged 15–49 years with a live birth and/or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage receiving specific antenatal services from a health care provider for their most recent live birth and/or stillbirth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Among women who received antenatal care for their most recent live birth or stillbirth in the last 2 years, percentage who received specific services during ANC from a health care provider:								Number of women with a live birth and/or stillbirth in the last 2 years
	Blood pressure measured	Urine sample taken	Blood sample taken	Baby's heartbeat checked	Counselled about maternal diet	Counselled about breast-feeding	Asked about vaginal bleeding	Mid-upper-arm circumference measured	
LIVE BIRTHS									
Age at birth									
<20	89.0	92.0	92.8	93.4	67.5	63.4	57.5	77.2	212
20–34	93.1	94.4	94.8	94.7	74.8	69.9	62.6	79.4	1,936
35–49	92.4	92.6	93.7	93.7	74.3	71.8	65.5	79.5	706
Birth order ¹									
1	91.8	93.9	94.1	94.4	72.5	65.0	57.4	78.1	918
2–3	92.9	94.0	94.5	94.1	74.2	70.5	63.2	78.2	1,168
4–5	93.1	93.5	95.3	95.0	75.7	74.6	69.4	82.4	542
6+	92.7	92.5	92.9	93.9	77.1	75.6	68.6	82.0	227
Residence									
Urban	93.4	93.2	94.3	94.2	73.8	68.2	63.0	75.0	850
Rural	92.3	94.0	94.4	94.4	74.3	70.6	62.9	81.1	2,004
Province									
City of Kigali	94.8	94.4	95.0	95.1	81.2	76.4	70.7	77.0	400
Southern Province	97.1	98.2	98.2	98.0	72.6	70.2	58.4	83.7	616
Western Province	95.3	96.3	96.5	96.4	79.7	75.2	70.3	87.3	598
Northern Province	86.4	85.9	86.6	86.8	67.2	62.9	57.5	71.5	390
Eastern Province	89.2	92.0	93.4	93.4	71.3	66.2	59.9	75.1	851
Education									
No education	92.5	92.9	92.5	92.4	73.0	72.8	67.5	81.6	141
Primary	91.7	92.8	93.6	93.8	72.6	69.2	61.5	79.5	1,723
Secondary	93.7	95.4	95.6	95.3	77.2	70.8	64.3	79.1	883
More than secondary	98.0	96.6	98.3	97.3	75.7	70.0	69.0	73.8	108
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	91.3	92.8	93.3	93.1	70.2	66.7	61.6	81.2	684
Second	93.2	94.5	94.5	95.1	74.3	72.0	63.0	82.2	586
Middle	91.9	93.5	94.4	93.8	75.5	70.0	63.4	78.9	536
Fourth	93.4	94.7	95.3	95.2	74.7	71.5	62.2	78.0	561
Highest	93.5	93.4	94.6	94.8	77.5	70.0	65.2	75.1	487
Total	92.6	93.8	94.4	94.4	74.2	69.9	63.0	79.3	2,854
STILLBIRTHS									
Total	(94.6)	(87.5)	(91.5)	(94.6)	(65.6)	(61.5)	(66.0)	(79.2)	32
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ²									
Total	92.6	93.7	94.3	94.4	74.1	69.8	63.0	79.3	2,880

Note: The denominator for this table includes all women with a birth in the 2 years preceding the survey, whether or not they received ANC for that birth. Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

² For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.4 Food/cash assistance, deworming, and iron-containing supplementation during pregnancy

Among women aged 15–49 years with a live birth or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentages who received food or cash assistance, took deworming medication, and took any iron-containing supplements during the pregnancy of the most recent live birth or stillbirth, and percentage distribution of the number of days during which women aged 15–49 years with a live birth or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey took iron-containing supplements during the pregnancy for the most recent live birth or stillbirth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Among women with a live birth and/or stillbirth in the last 2 years, percentage who during the pregnancy for the most recent live birth or stillbirth:			Number of days during which women with a live birth and/or stillbirth in the last 2 years took iron-containing supplements ¹ during the pregnancy for the most recent live birth or stillbirth:						Total	Number of women with a live birth and/or stillbirth in the last 2 years
	Received food or cash assistance	Took deworming medication	Took any iron-containing supplements ¹	None	<60	60–89	90–179	180+	Don't know		
LIVE BIRTHS											
Age at birth											
<20	9.3	35.4	89.0	11.0	42.6	10.4	24.5	9.3	2.2	100.0	212
20–34	6.6	38.8	92.0	8.0	37.2	15.6	28.0	9.3	1.9	100.0	1,936
35–49	7.8	43.8	91.7	8.3	37.3	17.8	27.6	7.4	1.5	100.0	706
Birth order ²											
1	5.7	35.5	92.1	7.9	37.6	13.8	29.5	9.3	1.8	100.0	918
2–3	7.6	40.7	91.1	8.9	37.0	16.4	26.1	9.4	2.2	100.0	1,168
4–5	7.5	41.3	91.4	8.6	37.7	15.8	27.7	8.4	1.8	100.0	542
6+	9.5	49.2	93.9	6.1	40.2	20.3	27.7	5.3	0.3	100.0	227
Residence											
Urban	4.1	38.4	91.7	8.3	38.5	15.6	28.0	7.1	2.5	100.0	850
Rural	8.4	40.4	91.7	8.3	37.2	15.8	27.5	9.6	1.5	100.0	2,004
Province											
City of Kigali	1.5	34.3	92.3	7.7	34.8	14.1	32.9	7.0	3.4	100.0	400
Southern Province	8.5	43.5	93.8	6.2	37.3	18.2	30.9	6.4	1.0	100.0	616
Western Province	11.1	53.8	94.3	5.7	33.0	17.7	33.5	9.9	0.2	100.0	598
Northern Province	7.4	32.6	91.5	8.5	26.1	16.6	28.7	19.1	0.9	100.0	390
Eastern Province	5.8	33.2	88.1	11.9	47.6	13.0	18.2	6.0	3.3	100.0	851
Education											
No education	8.9	46.8	88.8	11.2	35.1	21.1	24.7	6.5	1.5	100.0	141
Primary	7.9	40.4	90.9	9.1	37.8	15.8	26.5	8.9	1.9	100.0	1,723
Secondary	6.0	38.3	93.5	6.5	36.3	15.2	30.2	9.9	1.9	100.0	883
More than secondary	1.2	33.7	93.3	6.7	48.5	12.6	29.3	3.0	0.0	100.0	108
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	8.5	37.7	88.7	11.3	37.5	15.7	25.4	7.9	2.2	100.0	684
Second	10.7	46.7	91.0	9.0	38.2	16.4	26.2	8.1	2.0	100.0	586
Middle	7.6	39.1	93.9	6.1	38.2	16.0	26.9	11.9	1.0	100.0	536
Fourth	4.4	35.4	91.8	8.2	36.9	14.1	30.0	8.4	2.5	100.0	561
Highest	3.3	40.5	94.2	5.8	37.2	16.8	30.8	8.1	1.3	100.0	487
Total	7.1	39.8	91.7	8.3	37.6	15.8	27.6	8.8	1.8	100.0	2,854
STILLBIRTHS											
Total	(10.0)	(23.7)	(90.8)	(9.2)	(30.6)	(9.1)	(36.8)	(10.0)	(4.3)	100.0	32
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ³											
Total	7.2	39.7	91.7	8.3	37.6	15.7	27.7	8.8	1.9	100.0	2,880

Note: Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Iron tablets, iron syrup, or multiple micronutrient supplement

² Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

³ For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.5 Source of iron-containing supplements

Among women aged 15–49 years who had a live birth and/or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey who were given or bought iron-containing supplements during the pregnancy of the most recent live birth or stillbirth, percentage who obtained supplements, according to source, Rwanda DHS 2025

Source	Percentage who obtained iron-containing supplements ¹ from each source:		
	Live births	Stillbirths	Live births and stillbirths ²
Public sector	97.5	(100.0)	97.5
Referral hospital	0.8	(0.0)	0.8
Provincial/district hospital	1.1	(0.0)	1.0
Health centre	95.2	(92.8)	95.1
Health post	0.9	(7.2)	1.0
Private medical sector	2.8	(0.0)	2.8
Polyclinic hospital	0.7	(0.0)	0.7
Private clinic	1.5	(0.0)	1.4
Dispensary	0.0	(0.0)	0.0
Pharmacy	0.6	(0.0)	0.6
Number of women	2,623	29	2,647

Note: Supplements may have been obtained from more than one source. Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Iron tablets, iron syrup, or multiple micronutrient supplement

² For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.6 Tetanus toxoid injections

Among women aged 15–49 years with a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage receiving two or more tetanus toxoid injections during the pregnancy for the most recent live birth and the percentage whose last live birth was protected against neonatal tetanus, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage receiving two or more injections during the pregnancy for the last live birth	Percentage whose most recent live birth was protected against neonatal tetanus ¹	Number of women
Age at birth			
<20	59.5	62.6	212
20–34	49.1	79.1	1,936
35–49	22.4	77.5	706
Birth order²			
1	63.9	65.4	918
2–3	42.8	86.2	1,168
4–5	21.6	79.4	542
6+	13.2	77.1	227
Residence			
Urban	44.3	79.7	850
Rural	42.8	76.6	2,004
Province			
City of Kigali	46.7	80.2	400
Southern Province	41.0	79.2	616
Western Province	42.6	81.9	598
Northern Province	56.5	79.9	390
Eastern Province	37.6	70.9	851
Education			
No education	36.3	78.2	141
Primary	39.5	75.7	1,723
Secondary	51.5	79.9	883
More than secondary	44.4	85.3	108
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	43.2	72.7	684
Second	43.7	79.2	586
Middle	42.8	77.5	536
Fourth	40.3	78.6	561
Highest	46.6	81.1	487
Total	43.2	77.5	2,854

¹ Includes women with two injections during the pregnancy for the most recent live birth, or two or more injections (the last within 3 years of the most recent live birth), or three or more injections (the last within 5 years of the most recent live birth), or four or more injections (the last within 10 years of the most recent live birth), or five or more injections at any time prior to the most recent birth

² Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

Table 9.7.1 Place of delivery

Percentage distribution of live births and/or stillbirths in the 2 years preceding the survey by place of delivery and percentage delivered in a health facility, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Health facility		Home	Other	Total	Percentage delivered in a health facility	Number of births
	Public sector	Private medical sector					
LIVE BIRTHS							
Mother's age at birth							
<20	98.0	0.7	0.0	1.3	100.0	98.7	214
20–34	95.2	3.1	1.6	0.2	100.0	98.3	1,999
35–49	95.0	2.5	2.1	0.3	100.0	97.5	726
Birth order ¹							
1	96.7	2.9	0.3	0.1	100.0	99.5	944
2–3	94.4	3.6	1.6	0.4	100.0	98.0	1,201
4–5	96.2	1.6	2.2	0.0	100.0	97.8	562
6+	92.5	1.1	5.2	1.2	100.0	93.6	231
Antenatal care visits ²							
None	94.4	2.5	2.9	0.2	100.0	96.9	127
1–3	90.8	2.3	5.6	1.3	100.0	93.1	514
4+	96.5	2.8	0.6	0.1	100.0	99.3	2,212
Don't know/missing	*	*	*	*	100.0	*	2
Residence							
Urban	91.0	7.6	1.1	0.3	100.0	98.6	877
Rural	97.2	0.7	1.8	0.3	100.0	97.9	2,063
Province							
City of Kigali	93.1	4.8	1.6	0.4	100.0	97.9	410
Southern Province	96.3	1.7	1.3	0.6	100.0	98.0	634
Western Province	95.6	2.6	1.7	0.1	100.0	98.2	622
Northern Province	96.6	3.0	0.4	0.0	100.0	99.6	397
Eastern Province	94.9	2.6	2.2	0.3	100.0	97.5	876
Mother's education							
No education	93.9	0.0	6.1	0.0	100.0	93.9	142
Primary	97.7	0.4	1.5	0.5	100.0	98.0	1,780
Secondary	93.5	5.2	1.3	0.0	100.0	98.7	907
More than secondary	74.6	25.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	110
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	96.2	0.0	3.2	0.6	100.0	96.2	701
Second	97.8	0.3	1.6	0.3	100.0	98.1	600
Middle	98.3	0.2	1.5	0.1	100.0	98.4	559
Fourth	97.6	1.4	0.9	0.1	100.0	99.0	577
Highest	85.3	14.1	0.2	0.4	100.0	99.4	503
Total	95.3	2.8	1.6	0.3	100.0	98.1	2,939
STILLBIRTHS							
Total	(95.4)	(0.0)	(4.6)	(0.0)	100.0	(95.4)	32
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ³							
Total	95.3	2.7	1.6	0.3	100.0	98.1	2,971

Note: Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

² Includes only the most recent birth in the 2 years preceding the survey

³ For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.

Table 9.7.2 Reason for not delivering in a health facility

Percentage distribution of births not delivered in a health facility by main reason for why the birth did not occur in a health facility, Rwanda DHS 2025

	Reasons for not delivering at a health facility					Total	Number of births not delivered in a health facility
	Cost	Distance/ no transport	Not necessary	Used to home delivery	Other		
LIVE BIRTHS							
Total	(2.4)	(17.8)	(8.3)	(7.4)	(64.2)	100.0	47
STILLBIRTHS							
Total	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	1
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ¹							
Total	(2.3)	(19.3)	(8.0)	(7.2)	(63.2)	100.0	48

Note: Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.8 Caesarean section

Percentage of live births and/or stillbirths in the 2 years preceding the survey delivered by caesarean section (C-section), according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage delivered by C-section	Number of births
LIVE BIRTHS		
Mother's age at birth		
<20	24.4	214
20–34	23.2	1,999
35–49	24.3	726
Birth order¹		
1	23.5	944
2–3	26.2	1,201
4–5	21.4	562
6+	15.4	231
Antenatal care visits²		
None	17.2	127
1–3	18.8	514
4+	24.6	2,212
Don't know/missing	*	2
Place of delivery		
Health facility	24.0	2,884
Public sector	23.3	2,802
Private medical sector	48.4	82
Residence		
Urban	27.7	877
Rural	21.8	2,063
Province		
City of Kigali	25.2	410
Southern Province	27.3	634
Western Province	21.8	622
Northern Province	22.1	397
Eastern Province	21.9	876
Mother's education		
No education	18.0	142
Primary	20.6	1,780
Secondary	27.7	907
More than secondary	43.8	110
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	20.7	701
Second	19.6	600
Middle	21.6	559
Fourth	23.1	577
Highest	34.8	503
Total	23.5	2,939
STILLBIRTHS		
Total	(10.0)	32
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ³		
Total	23.4	2,971

Notes: The question on C-section is asked only of women who delivered in a health facility. In this table, it is assumed that women who did not give birth in a health facility did not receive a C-section. Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

² Includes only the most recent birth in the 2 years preceding the survey

³ For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.

Table 9.9 Assistance during delivery

Percentage distribution of live births and/or stillbirths in the 2 years preceding the survey by person providing assistance during delivery and percentage assisted by a skilled provider; and among most recent live births in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage with skin-to-skin contact immediately after birth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Person providing assistance during delivery								Percent- age delivered by a skilled provider ¹	Number of live births and/or still- births	Among most recent live births	
	Doctor	Nurse/ midwife	Auxiliary midwife	Com- munity health worker	Com- munity health worker in charge of mother and child	Relative/ friend/ other	No one	Total			Percent- age with skin-to- skin contact immedi- ately after birth	Number of live births
LIVE BIRTHS												
Mother's age at birth												
<20	35.6	61.9	0.6	0.0	0.9	0.4	0.6	100.0	98.1	214	75.4	212
20–34	32.7	64.3	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.3	100.0	98.3	1,999	81.0	1,936
35–49	32.4	63.9	1.6	0.3	0.0	1.0	0.9	100.0	97.8	726	83.2	706
Birth order ²												
1	38.2	60.1	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.1	100.0	99.3	944	79.7	918
2–3	33.6	63.1	1.4	0.2	0.3	1.1	0.2	100.0	98.1	1,201	80.2	1,168
4–5	27.1	69.6	1.5	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.4	100.0	98.2	562	83.9	542
6+	20.7	71.1	1.8	0.9	0.0	1.8	3.7	100.0	93.6	231	84.6	227
Antenatal care visits ³												
None	22.8	70.2	3.9	0.0	0.0	1.2	1.9	100.0	96.9	127	81.2	127
1–3	25.4	66.7	1.6	0.9	0.8	3.7	1.0	100.0	93.7	514	77.4	514
4+	34.5	63.7	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	100.0	99.3	2,212	82.0	2,212
Don't know/missing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	*	2	*	2
Place of delivery												
Health facility	33.4	65.0	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	99.7	2,884	82.2	2,801
Public sector	31.8	66.5	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	99.8	2,802	82.4	2,723
Private medical sector	88.1	10.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	100.0	98.5	82	75.0	78
Elsewhere	0.0	15.4	0.0	11.6	7.0	42.4	23.6	100.0	15.4	56	23.1	54
Residence												
Urban	40.7	56.4	1.5	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	100.0	98.6	877	80.4	850
Rural	29.5	67.3	1.2	0.4	0.1	1.1	0.5	100.0	98.0	2,063	81.4	2,004
Province												
City of Kigali	37.8	58.2	1.5	0.0	0.4	1.5	0.5	100.0	97.6	410	83.1	400
Southern Province	37.0	60.7	0.5	0.4	0.0	1.2	0.2	100.0	98.2	634	76.9	616
Western Province	30.4	66.3	1.3	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	100.0	98.0	622	83.5	598
Northern Province	32.3	65.9	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	100.0	99.6	397	85.0	390
Eastern Province	29.3	66.7	1.8	0.3	0.0	1.0	0.8	100.0	97.8	876	79.8	851
Mother's education												
No education	21.3	71.0	1.6	0.0	0.7	4.8	0.6	100.0	93.9	142	80.1	141
Primary	28.4	68.6	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.5	100.0	98.2	1,780	82.6	1,723
Secondary	38.7	58.1	1.7	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.4	100.0	98.5	907	78.9	883
More than secondary	70.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	110	76.4	108
Wealth quintile												
Lowest	26.1	69.3	1.3	0.1	0.3	1.6	1.3	100.0	96.7	701	79.0	684
Second	27.4	69.7	1.4	0.6	0.0	0.5	0.4	100.0	98.4	600	81.1	586
Middle	31.5	65.9	0.9	0.4	0.0	1.1	0.2	100.0	98.3	559	84.4	536
Fourth	32.4	64.9	1.3	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.3	100.0	98.6	577	84.1	561
Highest	50.6	46.8	1.8	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	100.0	99.2	503	77.0	487
Total	32.8	64.0	1.3	0.3	0.2	0.9	0.5	100.0	98.1	2,939	81.1	2,854
STILLBIRTHS												
Total	(46.2)	(49.2)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(1.4)	(3.1)	100.0	(95.4)	32	na	na
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ⁴												
Total	32.9	63.9	1.3	0.3	0.2	0.9	0.5	100.0	98.1	2,971	na	na

Notes: If the respondent mentioned more than one person attending during delivery, only the most qualified person is considered in this tabulation. Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

¹ Skilled provider includes doctors, nurses/midwives, and auxiliary midwives.

² Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

³ Includes only the most recent birth in the 2 years preceding the survey

⁴ For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.10 Duration of stay in health facility after birth

Among women with a live birth and/or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey who delivered their most recent live birth in a health facility, percentage distribution by duration of stay in the health facility following their most recent live birth, according to type of delivery, Rwanda DHS 2025

Type of delivery	<6 hours	6–11 hours	12–23 hours	1–2 days	3+ days	Don't know/ Missing	Total	Number of women
LIVE BIRTHS								
Vaginal birth	3.2	0.8	1.6	66.9	27.0	0.5	100.0	2,138
Caesarean section	2.7	0.0	0.3	15.1	81.8	0.2	100.0	663
STILLBIRTHS								
Vaginal birth	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	27
Caesarean section	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	3
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ¹								
Vaginal birth	3.1	0.8	1.6	66.8	27.1	0.5	100.0	2,160
Caesarean section	2.7	0.0	0.3	15.0	81.9	0.2	100.0	666

Notes: Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.11 Timing of first postnatal check for the mother

Among women aged 15–49 years with a live birth and/or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage distribution of the mother's first postnatal check for the most recent live birth or stillbirth by time after delivery, and percentage of women with a live birth or stillbirth during the 2 years preceding the survey who received a postnatal check in the first 2 days after giving birth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Time after delivery of mother's first postnatal check ¹						No postnatal check ²	Total	Percent- age of women with a postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth ¹	Number of women
	Less than 4 hours	4–23 hours	1–2 days	3–6 days	7–41 days	Don't know/ missing				
LIVE BIRTHS										
Age at birth										
<20	39.1	12.7	12.6	1.1	0.0	0.4	34.1	100.0	64.4	212
20–34	38.8	15.4	13.8	1.5	0.4	0.2	29.8	100.0	68.0	1,936
35–49	41.3	14.4	13.9	2.2	0.8	0.2	27.3	100.0	69.6	706
Birth order ³										
1	36.7	14.8	13.6	1.8	0.4	0.2	32.5	100.0	65.0	918
2–3	42.7	14.7	13.2	1.5	0.7	0.1	27.0	100.0	70.6	1,168
4–5	36.0	15.4	16.4	2.1	0.2	0.6	29.4	100.0	67.8	542
6+	41.6	16.0	11.2	0.5	0.5	0.0	30.3	100.0	68.8	227
Place of delivery										
Health facility	39.2	15.1	14.0	1.7	0.5	0.2	29.3	100.0	68.3	2,801
Elsewhere	47.7	7.4	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	42.5	100.0	57.5	54
Residence										
Urban	42.6	16.2	12.8	1.3	0.5	0.3	26.3	100.0	71.6	850
Rural	38.0	14.4	14.2	1.8	0.5	0.2	30.8	100.0	66.7	2,004
Province										
City of Kigali	45.2	16.1	12.0	0.6	0.8	0.7	24.7	100.0	73.3	400
Southern Province	34.0	13.6	18.6	3.1	0.9	0.0	29.8	100.0	66.2	616
Western Province	36.1	16.6	14.9	1.4	0.4	0.3	30.3	100.0	67.5	598
Northern Province	47.7	12.4	12.9	2.3	0.4	0.3	24.1	100.0	73.0	390
Eastern Province	39.2	15.5	10.7	1.0	0.1	0.1	33.4	100.0	65.4	851
Education										
No education	40.4	14.3	10.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	33.7	100.0	65.5	141
Primary	38.7	14.9	12.7	1.8	0.3	0.3	31.4	100.0	66.2	1,723
Secondary	39.2	15.4	16.3	1.6	0.9	0.1	26.6	100.0	70.8	883
More than secondary	52.1	13.9	14.5	1.6	0.3	0.0	17.6	100.0	80.5	108
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	36.3	12.9	13.6	2.2	0.5	0.3	34.2	100.0	62.9	684
Second	40.6	12.5	15.1	1.4	0.4	0.0	30.0	100.0	68.2	586
Middle	39.5	15.9	12.7	1.4	0.6	0.4	29.5	100.0	68.1	536
Fourth	38.8	17.4	13.4	1.7	0.3	0.4	28.1	100.0	69.5	561
Highest	42.9	17.2	13.9	1.4	0.7	0.1	23.8	100.0	73.9	487
Total	39.4	15.0	13.8	1.6	0.5	0.2	29.5	100.0	68.1	2,854
STILLBIRTHS										
Total	(36.9)	(19.9)	(3.2)	(7.7)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(32.2)	100.0	(60.1)	32
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ⁴										
Total	39.4	15.1	13.7	1.7	0.5	0.2	29.5	100.0	68.1	2,880

Note: Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Includes women who received a check from a doctor, nurse/midwife, auxiliary midwife, community health worker/fieldworker, or traditional birth attendant

² Includes women who received a check after 41 days

³ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

⁴ For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.12 Type of provider of first postnatal check for the mother

Among women aged 15–49 years a live birth and/or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage distribution by type of provider of the mother's first postnatal health check during the 2 days after the most recent live birth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Type of health provider for mother's first postnatal check					Total	Number of women
	Doctor/nurse/ midwife	Auxiliary midwife	Community health worker	Community health worker in charge of mother and child	No postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth		
LIVE BIRTHS							
Age at birth							
<20	64.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.6	100.0	212
20–34	67.3	0.6	0.2	0.0	32.0	100.0	1,936
35–49	68.6	0.8	0.0	0.2	30.4	100.0	706
Birth order ¹							
1	64.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	35.0	100.0	918
2–3	69.8	0.7	0.2	0.0	29.4	100.0	1,168
4–5	66.4	1.1	0.0	0.2	32.2	100.0	542
6+	67.8	0.4	0.6	0.0	31.2	100.0	227
Place of delivery							
Health facility	67.7	0.6	0.1	0.0	31.7	100.0	2,801
Elsewhere	52.7	0.0	2.5	2.4	42.5	100.0	54
Residence							
Urban	70.6	1.0	0.1	0.0	28.4	100.0	850
Rural	66.0	0.4	0.1	0.1	33.3	100.0	2,004
Province							
City of Kigali	73.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.7	100.0	400
Southern Province	65.5	0.7	0.0	0.0	33.8	100.0	616
Western Province	66.1	1.4	0.1	0.0	32.5	100.0	598
Northern Province	72.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	27.0	100.0	390
Eastern Province	64.8	0.1	0.3	0.2	34.6	100.0	851
Education							
No education	63.1	1.5	0.0	0.9	34.5	100.0	141
Primary	65.6	0.5	0.2	0.0	33.8	100.0	1,723
Secondary	70.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	29.2	100.0	883
More than secondary	79.8	0.7	0.0	0.0	19.5	100.0	108
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	61.7	0.7	0.3	0.2	37.1	100.0	684
Second	67.2	0.7	0.2	0.0	31.8	100.0	586
Middle	67.7	0.4	0.0	0.0	31.9	100.0	536
Fourth	69.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	30.5	100.0	561
Highest	73.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	26.1	100.0	487
Total	67.4	0.6	0.1	0.0	31.9	100.0	2,854
STILLBIRTHS							
Total	(60.1)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(39.9)	100.0	32
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ²							
Total	67.4	0.6	0.1	0.0	31.9	100.0	2,880

Note: Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

² For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.

Table 9.13 Content of postnatal care for the mother

Among women aged 15–49 years with a live birth and/or stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage for whom selected checks were performed during the first 2 days after the most recent birth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage for whom during the first 2 days after the most recent birth, any health care provider:			Percentage with all three checks performed in the first 2 days after birth	Number of women
	Measured blood pressure	Discussed vaginal bleeding	Discussed family planning		
LIVE BIRTHS					
Age at birth					
<20	51.9	50.8	73.4	37.1	212
20–34	54.5	53.1	73.5	43.0	1,936
35–49	59.1	57.3	73.5	46.8	706
Birth order ¹					
1	50.5	48.6	72.3	37.8	918
2–3	59.4	55.9	75.6	46.5	1,168
4–5	56.8	56.7	72.7	45.2	542
6+	52.0	58.7	69.4	47.0	227
Place of delivery					
Health facility	55.8	54.4	74.0	43.9	2,801
Public sector	55.3	54.1	74.6	43.8	2,723
Private medical sector	75.2	64.8	54.1	46.1	78
Elsewhere	35.8	30.4	45.1	21.7	54
Residence					
Urban	59.6	55.3	71.6	45.2	850
Rural	53.7	53.4	74.3	42.8	2,004
Province					
City of Kigali	65.1	60.3	76.1	51.0	400
Southern Province	57.1	55.9	77.2	43.7	616
Western Province	56.0	59.1	71.6	47.4	598
Northern Province	65.1	56.3	82.4	46.9	390
Eastern Province	44.9	44.9	66.8	35.5	851
Mother's education					
No education	50.5	59.0	70.8	44.4	141
Primary	53.4	52.4	73.0	41.9	1,723
Secondary	57.9	54.9	75.9	45.4	883
More than secondary	73.2	64.6	66.3	51.7	108
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	50.7	50.7	72.8	40.5	684
Second	53.9	51.3	71.9	41.7	586
Middle	56.5	56.2	75.4	46.3	536
Fourth	54.8	53.3	73.8	42.1	561
Highest	63.5	60.1	74.0	48.4	487
Total	55.4	53.9	73.5	43.5	2,854
STILLBIRTHS					
Total	(61.2)	(47.9)	(53.7)	(44.9)	32
LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS ²					
Total	55.4	53.9	73.3	43.5	2,880

Note: Stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 28 or more weeks. When pregnancy duration is reported in months, stillbirths are fetal deaths in pregnancies lasting 7 or more months. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

² For women who had both a live birth and a stillbirth in the 2 years preceding the survey, data are tabulated for the most recent birth only.



Table 9.14 Timing of first postnatal check for the newborn

Percentage distribution of most recent live births in the 2 years preceding the survey by time after birth of first postnatal check, and percentage of births with a postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

									Percentage of births with a postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth ¹	
Background characteristic	Time after delivery of newborn's first postnatal check ¹						No postnatal check ²	Total		Number of births
	Less than 1 hour	1–3 hours	4–23 hours	1–2 days	3–6 days	Don't know				
Mother's age at birth										
<20	21.5	22.3	15.5	14.5	0.0	0.0	26.2	100.0	73.8	212
20–34	16.0	28.3	14.3	12.9	1.2	0.0	27.2	100.0	71.5	1,936
35–49	15.3	30.0	12.8	13.5	1.4	0.0	27.1	100.0	71.5	706
Birth order ³										
1	17.9	25.7	14.2	13.3	1.2	0.0	27.8	100.0	71.1	918
2–3	16.1	29.9	14.2	12.3	1.3	0.1	26.1	100.0	72.6	1,168
4–5	16.0	25.7	14.4	15.5	1.4	0.0	27.0	100.0	71.6	542
6+	11.0	36.3	11.2	11.5	0.0	0.0	29.9	100.0	70.1	227
Place of delivery										
Health facility	16.4	28.0	14.1	13.3	1.2	0.0	26.9	100.0	71.9	2,801
Elsewhere	6.5	41.5	6.4	8.5	0.0	0.0	37.1	100.0	62.9	54
Residence										
Urban	19.0	29.8	15.4	10.4	1.3	0.1	24.0	100.0	74.6	850
Rural	15.1	27.6	13.4	14.3	1.2	0.0	28.4	100.0	70.4	2,004
Province										
City of Kigali	16.1	35.7	14.9	9.6	0.8	0.0	22.9	100.0	76.3	400
Southern Province	10.1	28.1	14.4	18.9	1.7	0.1	26.7	100.0	71.4	616
Western Province	10.4	31.4	12.8	12.8	1.3	0.0	31.2	100.0	67.5	598
Northern Province	27.3	24.7	10.1	14.4	2.5	0.0	21.1	100.0	76.4	390
Eastern Province	19.9	24.4	15.9	10.4	0.3	0.0	29.1	100.0	70.6	851
Mother's education										
No education	11.8	26.6	12.3	16.0	2.2	0.0	31.1	100.0	66.7	141
Primary	16.2	27.5	13.6	13.2	1.3	0.0	28.3	100.0	70.4	1,723
Secondary	16.3	30.0	14.6	12.5	1.0	0.1	25.4	100.0	73.5	883
More than secondary	22.4	28.8	17.3	14.7	1.0	0.0	15.7	100.0	83.3	108
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	15.2	25.4	13.3	14.1	1.2	0.0	30.8	100.0	67.9	684
Second	15.3	29.9	9.4	15.9	0.9	0.0	28.6	100.0	70.5	586
Middle	17.2	26.5	16.4	13.5	1.6	0.0	24.8	100.0	73.6	536
Fourth	16.3	28.6	15.5	11.8	0.8	0.0	26.9	100.0	72.2	561
Highest	17.9	31.9	16.2	9.7	1.5	0.2	22.6	100.0	75.7	487
Total	16.3	28.3	14.0	13.2	1.2	0.0	27.1	100.0	71.7	2,854

¹ Includes newborns who received a check from a doctor, nurse/midwife, auxiliary midwife, community health worker, traditional birth attendant, or community health worker in charge of mother and child

² Includes newborns who received a check after the first week of life

³ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.



Table 9.15 Type of provider of first postnatal check for the newborn

Percentage distribution of most recent live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey by type of provider of the newborn's first postnatal health check during the 2 days after the most recent live birth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Type of health provider for newborn's first postnatal check				Total	Number of births
	Doctor/ nurse/ midwife	Auxiliary/ midwife	Community health worker in charge of mother and child	No postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth		
Mother's age at birth						
<20	73.8	0.0	0.0	26.2	100.0	212
20–34	71.0	0.6	0.0	28.5	100.0	1,936
35–49	70.1	1.2	0.2	28.5	100.0	706
Birth order ¹						
1	71.0	0.0	0.0	28.9	100.0	918
2–3	71.6	1.0	0.0	27.4	100.0	1,168
4–5	70.2	1.1	0.2	28.4	100.0	542
6+	69.1	1.0	0.0	29.9	100.0	227
Place of delivery						
Health facility	71.2	0.7	0.0	28.1	100.0	2,801
Elsewhere	60.5	0.0	2.4	37.1	100.0	54
Residence						
Urban	73.6	1.1	0.0	25.4	100.0	850
Rural	69.8	0.5	0.1	29.6	100.0	2,004
Province						
City of Kigali	76.3	0.0	0.0	23.7	100.0	400
Southern Province	70.9	0.5	0.0	28.6	100.0	616
Western Province	66.4	1.1	0.0	32.5	100.0	598
Northern Province	75.2	1.3	0.0	23.6	100.0	390
Eastern Province	69.8	0.6	0.2	29.4	100.0	851
Mother's education						
No education	65.8	0.0	0.9	33.3	100.0	141
Primary	69.6	0.8	0.0	29.6	100.0	1,723
Secondary	73.0	0.5	0.0	26.5	100.0	883
More than secondary	82.6	0.7	0.0	16.7	100.0	108
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	67.1	0.7	0.2	32.1	100.0	684
Second	69.9	0.6	0.0	29.5	100.0	586
Middle	72.9	0.7	0.0	26.4	100.0	536
Fourth	71.8	0.4	0.0	27.8	100.0	561
Highest	74.5	1.2	0.0	24.3	100.0	487
Total	71.0	0.7	0.0	28.3	100.0	2,854

¹ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.



Table 9.16 Content of postnatal care for newborns

Among most recent live births in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage for whom selected functions were performed during the first 2 days after the birth and percentage with five signal functions performed during the first 2 days after the birth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of most recent live births for whom a health care provider performed the selected functions during the first 2 days after the birth:							Percentage with five ² signal functions performed during the first 2 days after birth	Number of births
	Cord examined	Temperature measured	Mother told how to recognize if the baby needs immediate medical attention	Mother counselled on breast-feeding	Mother observed breast-feeding	Mother both counselled on breast-feeding and observed breast-feeding	Weighed ¹		
Mother's age at birth									
<20	54.0	49.7	46.4	70.0	72.7	65.3	99.1	36.0	212
20–34	53.4	47.5	44.8	63.4	69.0	60.4	98.6	33.1	1,936
35–49	56.1	46.8	45.2	58.8	66.3	56.0	97.5	33.0	706
Birth order ³									
1	52.4	47.0	43.3	66.6	71.6	63.3	99.1	32.1	918
2–3	53.9	48.7	46.2	61.4	68.0	58.5	98.7	34.5	1,168
4–5	57.9	46.5	45.1	60.8	68.5	58.7	97.6	32.5	542
6+	53.8	45.5	45.7	59.0	59.9	54.0	95.7	33.5	227
Place of delivery									
Health facility	54.1	47.4	45.1	62.9	68.7	59.8	99.2	33.5	2,801
Elsewhere	59.1	50.5	43.4	56.8	61.8	56.8	55.1	24.2	54
Residence									
Urban	56.2	51.1	48.0	64.3	70.8	61.2	99.3	35.6	850
Rural	53.3	46.0	43.8	62.1	67.7	59.1	98.0	32.3	2,004
Province									
City of Kigali	61.7	51.8	53.4	70.0	75.2	66.7	98.9	39.7	400
Southern Province	54.8	46.0	44.6	64.0	72.5	61.4	99.0	32.5	616
Western Province	53.9	51.8	47.0	62.7	66.4	59.8	98.3	37.0	598
Northern Province	54.0	51.7	40.7	65.7	74.4	63.3	99.5	29.2	390
Eastern Province	50.3	41.7	42.0	57.2	61.6	53.4	97.3	30.0	851
Mother's education									
No education	58.7	49.6	48.6	60.4	61.7	54.0	95.0	37.3	141
Primary	53.3	46.0	43.2	62.0	67.4	59.0	98.2	32.4	1,723
Secondary	53.4	47.9	46.5	64.1	70.9	61.2	99.2	32.7	883
More than secondary	67.5	65.1	58.3	67.0	78.8	66.0	99.1	48.2	108
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	55.1	48.1	43.7	61.1	66.4	58.3	97.0	34.5	684
Second	51.0	42.4	41.0	59.0	64.5	55.6	98.2	29.1	586
Middle	56.2	48.3	47.5	64.9	72.7	62.3	98.9	35.9	536
Fourth	51.4	43.7	43.0	63.6	66.6	59.8	99.4	28.6	561
Highest	57.4	56.3	51.2	66.3	74.6	63.7	98.9	39.2	487
Total	54.1	47.5	45.0	62.8	68.6	59.7	98.4	33.3	2,854

¹ Captures newborns who were weighed "at birth." May exclude some newborns who were weighed during the 2 days after birth.

² The functions are (1) examining the umbilical cord, (2) measuring temperature, (3) observing and/or counselling on breastfeeding, (4) telling the mother about danger signs/how to recognize if the baby needs immediate attention, and (5) weighing. Corresponds to the definition of the five signal functions to assess the content of postnatal care for newborns described in Moran et al. 2013.

³ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.



Table 9.17 Postnatal checks on mother and newborn

Among most recent live births in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage for which mothers aged 15–49 years received a postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth, percentage for which newborns received a postnatal check during the first 2 days after birth, percentage for which both mothers and newborns received a postnatal check, and percentage for which neither mothers nor newborns received a postnatal check, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Percentage who received a postnatal check ¹ during the first 2 days after birth					
Background characteristic	Mother	Newborn	Both mother and newborn	Neither mother nor newborn received postnatal check ²	Number of births
Mother's age at birth					
<20	64.4	73.8	59.0	20.7	212
20–34	68.0	71.5	61.0	21.4	1,936
35–49	69.6	71.5	60.8	19.7	706
Birth order ³					
1	65.0	71.1	57.3	21.2	918
2–3	70.6	72.6	63.5	20.3	1,168
4–5	67.8	71.6	60.8	21.5	542
6+	68.8	70.1	60.3	21.5	227
Place of delivery					
Health facility	68.3	71.9	60.9	20.7	2,801
Public sector	68.1	71.6	60.6	20.9	2,723
Private medical sector	75.9	81.5	69.4	11.9	78
Elsewhere	57.5	62.9	55.4	34.9	54
Residence					
Urban	71.6	74.6	64.0	17.7	850
Rural	66.7	70.4	59.4	22.3	2,004
Province					
City of Kigali	73.3	76.3	65.8	16.3	400
Southern Province	66.2	71.4	58.4	20.8	616
Western Province	67.5	67.5	58.6	23.6	598
Northern Province	73.0	76.4	64.5	15.1	390
Eastern Province	65.4	70.6	59.9	24.0	851
Mother's education					
No education	65.5	66.7	57.9	25.7	141
Primary	66.2	70.4	59.2	22.5	1,723
Secondary	70.8	73.5	62.5	18.2	883
More than secondary	80.5	83.3	76.3	12.5	108
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	62.9	67.9	55.6	24.8	684
Second	68.2	70.5	59.6	20.9	586
Middle	68.1	73.6	62.7	21.0	536
Fourth	69.5	72.2	61.4	19.7	561
Highest	73.9	75.7	66.4	16.8	487
Total	68.1	71.7	60.8	20.9	2,854

¹ Includes checks from a doctor, nurse/midwife, auxiliary midwife, community health worker, traditional birth attendant, or community health worker in charge of mother and child

² Includes checks after the first 2 days or by other persons

³ Birth order refers to the order of the birth among the respondent's live births.

Table 9.18 Men's involvement in maternal health care

Among men aged 15–49 years with a youngest child aged 0–2 years, percentage who report that the child's mother had any antenatal check-ups during the pregnancy with the child; among men for whom the mother of the youngest child aged 0–2 years had any antenatal check-ups during the pregnancy with the child, percentage who were present for any antenatal check-up; among men with a child aged 0–2 years, percentage who report their child was born in a health facility; and among men whose youngest child aged 0–2 years was born in a health facility, percentage who went to the health facility with the mother, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Among men aged 15–49 years with a youngest child aged 0–2 years		Among men aged 15–49 years with a youngest child aged 0–2 years for whom the mother had any antenatal check-ups		Among men aged 15–49 years with a youngest child aged 0–2 years		Among men aged 15–49 years whose youngest child aged 0–2 years was born in a health facility	
	Percentage who report the child's mother had any antenatal check-ups during pregnancy with the child	Number of men	Percentage ever present during any antenatal check-up	Number of men	Percentage who report their child was born in a health facility	Number of men	Percentage who went with the child's mother to health facility	Number of men
Father's age at interview								
<20	*	1	*	1	*	1	*	1
20–34	97.9	703	84.5	688	98.2	703	75.1	691
35–49	98.7	605	89.7	597	97.5	605	81.6	590
Number of children ever fathered								
1	97.0	350	79.4	340	99.3	350	68.0	348
2–3	99.2	556	89.3	551	97.5	556	83.7	541
4–5	98.1	292	90.7	286	98.0	292	76.4	286
6+	97.9	112	87.3	110	95.0	112	86.7	106
Residence								
Urban	98.5	413	88.3	407	98.1	413	84.0	405
Rural	98.1	897	86.1	880	97.7	897	75.3	876
Province								
City of Kigali	98.7	207	92.7	204	98.0	207	85.3	202
Southern Province	100.0	271	82.6	271	98.8	271	72.3	268
Western Province	97.5	286	90.3	279	97.6	286	83.3	279
Northern Province	97.2	201	86.1	195	99.0	201	86.2	199
Eastern Province	97.8	345	84.2	337	96.6	345	69.0	333
Father's education								
No education	94.6	85	84.2	81	96.9	85	74.0	83
Primary	98.2	837	86.9	822	97.5	837	75.9	816
Secondary	99.0	296	86.2	293	98.5	296	80.2	292
More than secondary	99.5	91	90.4	91	100.0	91	94.4	91
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	97.1	267	81.6	260	94.4	267	70.1	252
Second	99.1	253	87.4	251	98.9	253	76.7	250
Middle	97.3	252	88.3	245	97.8	252	78.9	246
Fourth	98.7	266	87.7	263	99.0	266	79.7	264
Highest	99.0	271	89.0	268	99.2	271	84.4	269
Total 15–49	98.2	1,310	86.8	1,287	97.9	1,310	78.0	1,282
50–59	100.0	56	93.1	56	99.4	56	84.9	55
Total 15–59	98.3	1,365	87.1	1,342	97.9	1,365	78.3	1,337

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 9.19 Examinations for breast cancer

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years ever examined by a doctor or health care worker for breast cancer, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage examined for breast cancer	Number of women
Age		
15–29	5.7	7,419
30–49	16.0	6,864
30–34	13.2	1,879
35–39	18.0	1,911
40–44	15.8	1,730
45–49	17.2	1,344
30–44	15.7	5,520
40–49	16.4	3,074
Number of living children		
0	3.7	4,856
1–2	11.4	4,626
3–4	16.8	3,170
5+	17.2	1,631
Marital status		
Never married	4.7	5,505
Married or living together	14.8	7,410
Divorced/separated/widowed	12.3	1,369
Residence		
Urban	11.5	4,570
Rural	10.3	9,713
Province		
City of Kigali	11.5	2,290
Southern Province	5.2	3,087
Western Province	13.2	2,949
Northern Province	9.8	2,089
Eastern Province	13.1	3,868
Education		
No education	14.2	929
Primary	10.9	7,938
Secondary	8.8	4,765
More than secondary	15.6	651
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	8.5	2,642
Second	10.6	2,738
Middle	10.7	2,746
Fourth	10.5	2,885
Highest	12.5	3,272
Total	10.7	14,283

Table 9.20 Cervical cancer

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who have heard of cervical cancer, have heard of a test for cervical cancer, and have been tested for cervical cancer; and percentage of women aged 15–49 years who have been tested for cervical cancer by timing of last test and by test results, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percent- age who have heard of cervical cancer	Percent- age who have heard of a test for cervical cancer	Percent- age who have been tested for cervical cancer	Number of women	Time of last test for cervical cancer				Results of last test for cervical cancer					Number of women
					<1 year ago	1–3 years ago	>3 years ago	Don't know	Ab- normal/ posi- tive/ suspect cancer	Normal/ negative	Unclear/ incon- clusive	Did not receive results	Don't know	
Age														
15–19	92.7	71.4	5.0	2,897	15.4	51.6	31.7	1.4	0.0	74.4	0.0	25.6	0.0	146
20–24	92.0	77.7	7.9	2,489	32.6	25.9	40.0	1.5	1.2	86.5	0.0	11.7	0.6	196
25–29	93.6	82.5	13.3	2,032	39.4	30.2	29.4	1.0	0.9	86.7	0.3	11.7	0.4	271
30–34	94.8	84.7	24.0	1,879	51.6	38.6	9.8	0.0	1.7	83.4	0.6	14.1	0.2	452
35–39	94.1	84.9	34.8	1,911	46.5	45.0	8.4	0.2	1.9	79.1	1.8	17.0	0.2	665
40–44	93.5	83.8	32.4	1,730	39.8	47.3	12.5	0.2	2.4	78.3	2.0	17.2	0.2	561
45–49	94.1	84.9	33.5	1,344	38.8	49.9	10.7	0.5	3.3	82.0	0.8	13.3	0.6	451
Residence														
Urban	95.3	84.2	20.2	4,570	49.5	33.2	17.1	0.2	2.2	84.5	1.3	11.8	0.3	922
Rural	92.5	78.6	18.7	9,713	37.2	47.6	14.6	0.6	1.8	79.5	1.0	17.4	0.3	1,819
Province														
City of Kigali	95.2	85.2	19.2	2,290	51.6	34.0	14.3	0.0	2.3	87.0	1.0	9.2	0.4	441
Southern Province	92.4	76.9	11.1	3,087	21.5	50.6	27.1	0.8	1.9	86.1	0.4	11.5	0.0	343
Western Province	93.8	77.4	19.0	2,949	59.3	31.7	9.0	0.0	1.3	81.9	1.3	15.1	0.4	561
Northern Province	94.8	87.5	20.4	2,089	22.0	59.4	18.4	0.3	2.6	84.5	0.8	12.2	0.0	427
Eastern Province	92.1	78.9	25.1	3,868	41.8	43.0	14.3	0.9	1.9	74.8	1.3	21.5	0.4	970
Education														
No education	86.3	71.0	27.4	929	52.1	39.2	8.2	0.5	2.1	77.2	0.4	20.2	0.0	255
Primary	92.1	79.2	21.2	7,938	41.0	46.0	12.4	0.6	2.2	79.7	1.3	16.3	0.4	1,684
Secondary	96.4	82.9	14.3	4,765	39.3	36.3	24.2	0.2	1.4	84.1	0.7	13.6	0.2	680
More than secondary	97.2	90.3	18.9	651	35.1	41.4	23.5	0.0	1.6	92.2	1.2	5.0	0.0	123
Wealth quintile														
Lowest	87.4	70.4	16.4	2,642	39.9	45.5	14.6	0.0	1.7	77.8	1.4	18.9	0.3	432
Second	93.3	79.7	19.7	2,738	43.0	41.6	15.0	0.4	2.3	76.1	1.2	20.2	0.2	539
Middle	94.7	82.3	20.5	2,746	40.0	43.9	14.6	1.5	2.0	80.9	0.8	15.9	0.4	563
Fourth	95.3	83.4	19.8	2,885	39.7	44.8	15.2	0.3	2.2	80.0	1.3	16.2	0.3	572
Highest	95.5	85.0	19.4	3,272	43.6	39.0	17.4	0.0	1.6	89.1	0.8	8.2	0.3	635
Total	93.4	80.4	19.2	14,283	41.3	42.7	15.5	0.5	2.0	81.2	1.1	15.5	0.3	2,741

Table 9.21 Treatment and follow-up visits for women with abnormal or inconclusive cervical cancer test results

Among women aged 15–49 years with abnormal, positive, or suspect cervical cancer screening test results, percentage distribution by treatment status; among women who received treatment, percentage who received treatment on the same day as their test result, and percentage with any follow-up visit after treatment; and among women with unclear or inconclusive results or with abnormal, or suspect results who did not receive treatment, percentage with any follow-up visit due to their test result, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Treatment and follow-up	Percentage
Received any treatment to cervix	
Yes	68.8
No	31.2
Total	100.0
Number of women with abnormal or positive test results or who had suspected cancer	54
Characteristics of treatment	
Percentage who received treatment on the same day as their test result	(27.7)
Percentage who had a follow-up visit after treatment	(37.8)
Number of women who received treatment	37
Follow-up visits among those without treatment	
Percentage with any follow-up visit due to test result	(6.8)
Number of women with unclear/inconclusive test results or with abnormal/positive or suspect results who did not receive treatment¹	46

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Includes women who did not know if they had received treatment



Table 9.22 Problems in accessing health care

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who reported that they have serious problems in accessing health care for themselves when they are sick, by type of problem, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Problems in accessing health care					Number of women
	Getting permission to go for treatment	Getting money for treatment	Distance to health facility	Not wanting to go alone	At least one problem accessing health care	
Age						
15–19	3.8	30.9	26.2	14.2	44.7	2,897
20–34	3.5	33.4	27.5	11.8	45.6	6,401
35–49	3.5	41.5	32.1	12.1	52.5	4,985
Number of living children						
0	3.4	27.9	24.0	12.7	40.8	4,856
1–2	3.9	36.5	29.7	12.3	48.6	4,626
3–4	3.2	41.3	31.3	12.7	52.2	3,170
5+	3.7	46.1	36.2	10.9	57.9	1,631
Marital status						
Never married	3.7	31.3	24.9	13.2	43.6	5,505
Married or living together	3.3	35.2	30.4	11.4	48.0	7,410
Divorced/separated/widowed	4.8	56.7	35.9	14.2	63.8	1,369
Residence						
Urban	2.8	26.5	14.5	8.0	33.6	4,570
Rural	4.0	40.1	35.6	14.4	54.5	9,713
Province						
City of Kigali	2.1	22.3	13.9	6.4	29.3	2,290
Southern Province	4.6	44.5	35.2	14.4	58.0	3,087
Western Province	4.0	40.7	35.3	17.2	56.1	2,949
Northern Province	1.6	20.0	18.4	5.3	31.8	2,089
Eastern Province	4.4	41.3	33.3	14.4	53.0	3,868
Education						
No education	4.7	53.7	38.1	14.5	64.1	929
Primary	4.0	42.5	33.6	13.4	54.6	7,938
Secondary	2.8	24.5	22.2	10.9	37.8	4,765
More than secondary	2.3	9.9	6.0	6.5	15.9	651
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	5.4	61.6	44.0	18.4	71.0	2,642
Second	3.7	46.8	37.8	14.3	59.4	2,738
Middle	3.4	34.5	32.1	12.8	50.2	2,746
Fourth	2.7	27.4	24.2	10.8	41.6	2,885
Highest	2.9	13.9	10.5	6.9	22.9	3,272
Total	3.6	35.7	28.8	12.4	47.8	14,283

Table 9.23 Distance from health care

Percentage distributions of women aged 15–49 years by travel time to nearest health facility and by means of transport to nearest health facility, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Travel time to nearest health facility					Means of transport to nearest health facility				Number of women
	<30 minutes	30–59 minutes	60–119 minutes	≥2 hours	Total	Motor-ised ¹	Not motor-ised ²	Other	Total	
Age										
15–19	28.6	33.6	29.2	8.6	100.0	7.5	92.4	0.1	100.0	2,897
20–34	31.9	31.4	27.8	9.0	100.0	12.0	88.0	0.1	100.0	6,401
35–49	28.3	30.4	30.3	11.0	100.0	8.6	91.4	0.1	100.0	4,985
Accessing health care										
Distance to health facility is a problem	8.0	19.3	49.4	23.3	100.0	7.5	92.4	0.1	100.0	4,119
Distance to health facility is not a problem	38.9	36.4	20.6	4.1	100.0	10.8	89.1	0.1	100.0	10,164
Means of transport to nearest health facility										
Motorized ¹	44.4	30.6	19.2	5.8	100.0	na	na	na	na	1,409
Not motorized ²	28.4	31.6	30.0	10.0	100.0	na	na	na	na	12,863
Other	*	*	*	*	100.0	na	na	na	na	10
Residence										
Urban	47.3	35.3	14.6	2.7	100.0	19.8	80.1	0.1	100.0	4,570
Rural	21.8	29.6	35.7	12.9	100.0	5.2	94.8	0.1	100.0	9,713
Province										
City of Kigali	41.7	36.7	18.4	3.2	100.0	24.8	75.0	0.1	100.0	2,290
Southern Province	25.5	28.7	34.3	11.5	100.0	7.6	92.3	0.0	100.0	3,087
Western Province	27.4	30.1	31.5	11.1	100.0	4.4	95.6	0.0	100.0	2,949
Northern Province	28.8	34.8	27.5	8.9	100.0	5.3	94.5	0.2	100.0	2,089
Eastern Province	29.2	29.9	29.8	11.2	100.0	9.4	90.5	0.0	100.0	3,868
Education										
No education	21.7	27.5	36.3	14.5	100.0	4.3	95.4	0.3	100.0	929
Primary	23.6	31.5	33.0	11.9	100.0	5.4	94.6	0.1	100.0	7,938
Secondary	36.8	33.4	23.7	6.1	100.0	14.5	85.5	0.0	100.0	4,765
More than secondary	70.4	22.5	6.4	0.7	100.0	38.9	61.1	0.0	100.0	651
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	14.7	27.0	41.9	16.4	100.0	1.9	98.0	0.2	100.0	2,642
Second	21.1	28.8	35.9	14.2	100.0	2.6	97.4	0.0	100.0	2,738
Middle	22.3	33.3	33.0	11.3	100.0	3.8	96.2	0.0	100.0	2,746
Fourth	32.4	35.0	26.8	5.8	100.0	10.8	89.1	0.1	100.0	2,885
Highest	54.1	32.6	11.0	2.3	100.0	26.7	73.2	0.1	100.0	3,272
Total	30.0	31.5	28.9	9.6	100.0	9.9	90.1	0.1	100.0	14,283

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

¹ Includes car/truck, public bus, motorcycle/scooter, and boat with motor

² Includes animal-drawn cart, bicycle, boat without motor, and walking

Key Findings

- **Birth weight:** Among infants born in the 2 years before the survey who had their birth weight reported, 9% had a low birth weight (less than 2.5 kg).
- **Vaccinations:** By the time of the survey, 94% of children aged 12–23 months were fully vaccinated against all basic antigens and 82% were fully vaccinated according to the national schedule.
- **Symptoms of acute respiratory infection:** Advice or treatment was sought for 84% of children under age 5 who had symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the 2 weeks before the survey.
- **Fever:** Advice or treatment was sought for 68% of children under age 5 who had a fever in the 2 weeks before the survey.
- **Diarrhea:** Advice or treatment was sought for 65% of children under age 5 who had diarrhea in the 2 weeks before the survey. Among children with diarrhea, 44% received oral rehydration therapy (ORT), while 18% received no treatment.

Information on child health and survival enables policymakers and programme managers to assess the effectiveness of current strategies, formulate appropriate interventions to prevent deaths from childhood illnesses, and improve the health of children in Rwanda.

This chapter presents information on birth weight and vaccination status among young children. Furthermore, it examines the prevalence of, and care-seeking behaviours for, three common childhood illnesses: symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI), fever, and diarrhea. The chapter concludes by presenting information on early childhood development.

10.1 Child's Size and Birth Weight

Low birth weight

Percentage of births with a reported birth weight below 2.5 kilograms regardless of gestational age.

Sample: Live births in the 2 years before the survey that have a reported birth weight, from either a written record or the mother's report

Birth weight is a reliable and sensitive indicator for predicting both the immediate and long-term outcomes for newborns. Low birth weight represents a challenging and multifaceted public health problem, as it is associated with an elevated risk of morbidity and mortality during infancy. Low birth weight infants are more likely to die from common childhood diseases within the first year of life than their normal weight counterparts. The public



health significance of low birth weight is underscored by its association with increased risk of mortality, developmental delays, specialized institutional care, and intensive care unit care.

For births that occurred in the 2 years preceding the survey, birth weight data were recorded in the questionnaire if available from either a written record or the mother's recall. Overall, information on birth weight was obtained from written records for 13% of babies and 85% from the mother's recall (**Table 10.1**). Among infants with a reported birth weight, 9% were classified as having a low birth weight (less than 2.5 kg).

10.2 Vaccination of Children

Universal immunization of children against common vaccine-preventable diseases is crucial in reducing infant and child morbidity and mortality. In Rwanda, routine childhood vaccines include bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) (tuberculosis), HepB (hepatitis B), oral polio vaccine (OPV), inactivated polio vaccine (IPV), pentavalent or DPT-HepB-Hib (diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B, and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b), pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV), rotavirus vaccine (RV), and measles-rubella vaccine (MR).

In the 2025 RDHS, information on vaccination coverage was obtained using three approaches: written vaccination records, including vaccination or health cards; mothers' verbal reports; and electronic immunization records.

For each living child born in the 3 years before the survey, mothers were asked to present to the interviewer the child's vaccination card or other document used for recording the child's immunizations. If the vaccination card or other document was available, the interviewer copied the dates of each vaccination received.

If a vaccine was not recorded in the vaccination card or on the document as administered, the mother was asked whether that particular vaccine had been given. For children without a vaccination card or other document, the mother was asked to recall whether the child had received the BCG, hepatitis B birth dose, oral polio, inactivated polio, DPT-HepB-Hib, pneumococcal, rotavirus, and measles vaccines. If the mother reported that the child had received any multidose vaccine, she was further asked to indicate the number of doses the child received.

After data collection was completed, for children who did not have an immunization card or who were reported as not having received any immunizations, the survey administrators checked to see if a digital vaccination system ID number had been collected during the interview. In these cases, when a record was found in the digital vaccination system that matched the ID number collected during the interview, the electronic record was used to replace the interview data.

10.2.1 Vaccination Card Ownership and Availability

Vaccination cards are a critical tool for ensuring that a child receives all recommended vaccinations on schedule. Ninety percent of children aged 12–23 months and 98% of children aged 24–35 months ever had a vaccination card or other document on which their vaccinations were recorded. However, only 80% of children aged 12–23 months and 85% of children aged 24–35 months had a vaccination card available at the time of the interview (**Table 10.2**). Since the 2019–20 RDHS, vaccination card coverage has decreased from 97% among children aged 12–23 months and 93% among children aged 24–35 months. This change in possession of paper vaccination records is likely due to increasing use of the digital vaccination system.



10.2.2 Basic Antigen Coverage

Fully vaccinated: basic antigens

Percentage of children who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card, the mother's report, or the national electronic system). To have received all basic antigens, a child must receive at least:

- One dose of BCG vaccine, which protects against tuberculosis
- Three doses of polio vaccine given as oral polio vaccine (OPV), inactivated polio vaccine (IPV), or a combination of OPV and IPV
- Three doses of DPT-containing vaccine, which protects against diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), and tetanus
- One dose of measles and rubella (MR)

Sample: Children aged 12–23 months and 24–35 months

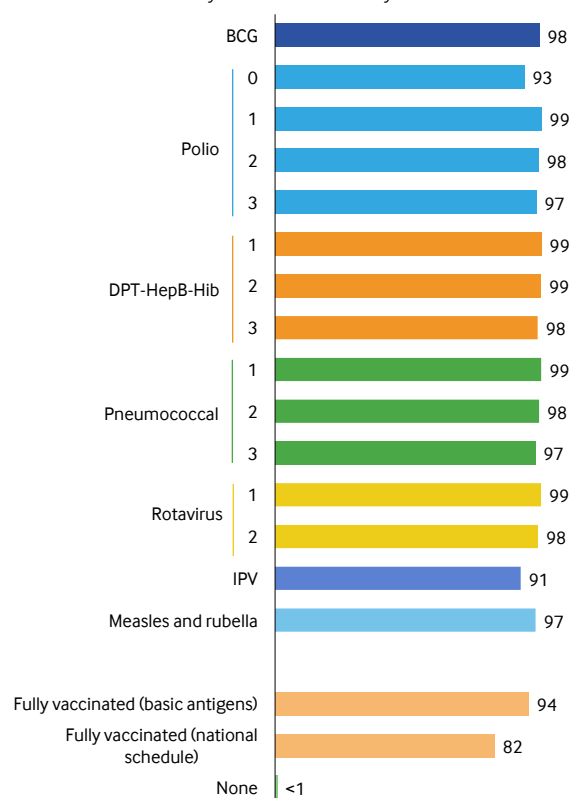
Historically, an important measure of vaccination coverage has been the proportion of children receiving all “basic” antigens. Children are considered fully vaccinated against all basic antigens if they have received the BCG vaccine, three doses each of polio vaccine and DPT-containing vaccine, and a single dose of measles-containing vaccine. In Rwanda, the BCG vaccine is usually given at birth or at first clinic contact, while the polio and DPT-containing vaccines are given at approximately age 6, 10, and 14 weeks. A first measles-containing vaccination should be given at or soon after age 9 months.

Among children aged 12–23 months, 98% received the BCG vaccine, 98% received the third dose of DPT-HepB-Hib, 97% received the third dose of OPV, 97% received the third dose of the pneumococcal vaccine, 98% received the second dose of the rotavirus vaccine, and 97% received the first dose of the measles-rubella vaccine (**Table 10.3** and **Figure 10.1**).

Overall, 94% of children aged 12–23 months were fully vaccinated with all basic antigens at any time before the survey, while less than 1% did not receive any vaccinations. By province, the percentage of children aged 2–23 months who were fully vaccinated with all basic antigens ranges from 89% in the City of Kigali to 97% in the Northern Province (**Table 10.4** and **Map 10.1**).

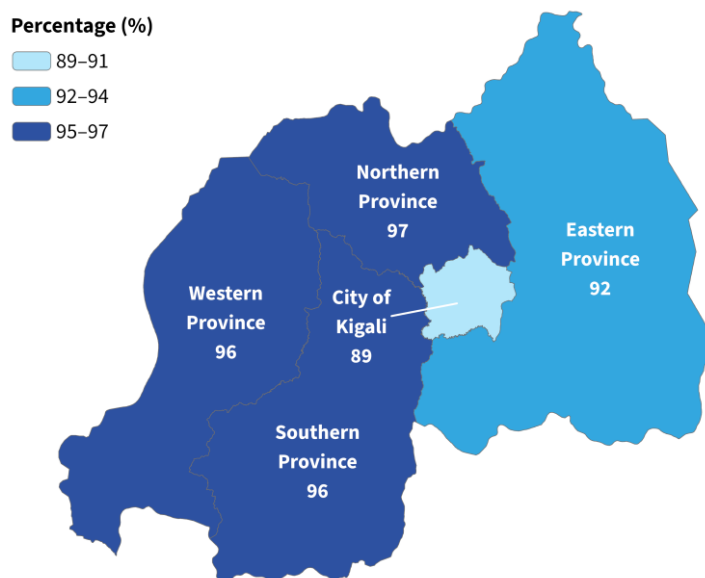
Figure 10.1 Childhood vaccinations

Percentage of children aged 12–23 months vaccinated at any time before the survey



Map 10.1 Vaccination coverage by province

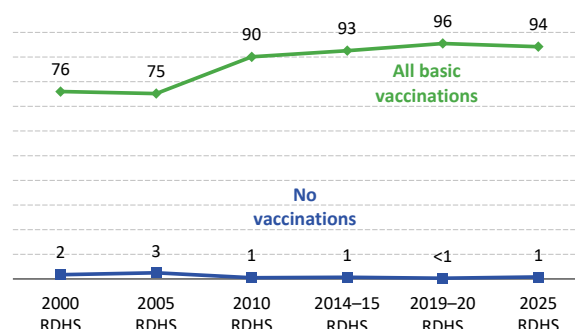
Percentage of children aged 12–23 months who were fully vaccinated (basic antigens) at any time before the survey



Trends: The percentage of children aged 12–23 months who have been fully vaccinated against all basic antigens increased from 76% in 2000 to 96% in 2019–20 and remained at about the same level (94%) in 2025 (Figure 10.2).

Figure 10.2 Trends in childhood vaccinations

Percentage of children aged 12–23 months who received all basic vaccines at any time before the survey



10.2.3 National Schedule Coverage

Fully vaccinated according to national schedule: children aged 12–23 months

Percentage of children who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report). To be fully vaccinated according to the national schedule, a child must receive the following:

- One dose of BCG vaccine
- OPV (birth dose)
- Three doses of OPV and one dose of IPV
- Three doses of DPT-HepB-Hib
- Three doses of PCV
- Two doses of RV
- One dose of MR

Sample: Children aged 12–23 months

Fully vaccinated according to national schedule: children aged 24–35 months

Percentage of children who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report). To be fully vaccinated according to the national schedule, a child must receive all of the vaccinations listed above along with the following:

- A second dose of MR

Sample: Children aged 24–35 months

A second measure of vaccination coverage is the percentage of children aged 12–23 months and 24–35 months who are fully vaccinated according to the national schedule. In this report, a child aged 12–23 months is considered fully vaccinated according to the national schedule if the child has received all basic antigens as well as a birth dose of OPV, a dose of IPV, three doses of HepB and Hib (given as part of DPT-containing vaccine), three doses of the pneumococcal vaccine, and two doses of rotavirus vaccine. Children aged 24–35 months have received all vaccinations according to the national schedule if they have received a second dose of the measles and rubella vaccine in addition to all of the vaccinations relevant for a child aged 12–23 months.

Among children aged 12–23 months, 82% are fully vaccinated according to the national schedule. For children aged 24–35 months, full vaccination according to the national schedule requires receipt of a second dose of the MR vaccine in addition to all of the vaccinations required for a child aged 12–23 months. Among children aged 24–35 months, 93% received a second dose of the MR vaccine. Overall, 81% of children aged 24–35 months are fully vaccinated according to the national schedule (**Table 10.4**).

Source of Vaccinations

A majority of children aged 12–23 months and 24–35 months (99% each) received their vaccinations from public sector sources (**Table 10.5**).

10.3 Symptoms of Acute Respiratory Infection and Care-seeking Behaviour

Care seeking for symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI)

Children with symptoms of ARI for whom advice or treatment was sought. ARI symptoms consist of short, rapid breathing that is chest-related and/or difficult breathing that is chest-related.

Sample: Children under age 5 with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks before the survey

Table 10.6 shows that among children under age 5, 2% had symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks preceding the survey. Of these children, 84% were taken to a health facility or provider for advice or treatment, and 33% were taken for advice or treatment on the same day or the next day.

Source of Advice or Treatment for Symptoms of ARI

The public sector (81%) is the most common source of advice or treatment for children with symptoms of ARI for whom care or treatment was sought. Among public sector facilities, the most prominent sources are health centres (52%) and health posts (13%). Seventeen percent of children with symptoms of ARI for whom care or treatment was sought were taken to a private medical sector facility (**Table 10.7**).



10.4 Fever and Care-seeking Behaviour

Care seeking for fever

Children with fever for whom advice or treatment was sought.

Sample: Children under aged 5 years with a fever in the 2 weeks before the survey

Table 10.8 indicates that 16% of children under aged 5 years had fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey. Of these children, 68% were taken to a health facility or provider for advice or treatment, and 33% were taken for advice and treatment on the same day or the following day. Additionally, 48% of these children were treated with an antibiotic, 44% had their blood taken from a finger or heel for testing, and 7% were diagnosed with malaria by a healthcare provider.

Source of Advice or Treatment for Fever

The public sector (77%) is the most common source of advice or treatment for children with fever for whom advice or treatment was sought. Among public sector facilities, health centres (54%) and health posts (13%) are the most common sources. Nineteen percent of children with a fever for whom advice or treatment was sought were taken to a private medical sector facility (**Table 10.9**).

Artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT) is the recommended first-line antimalarial drug for the treatment of uncomplicated malaria in Rwanda. Among children who took any antimalarial drugs, 97% received ACT (**Table 10.10**).

10.5 Diarrheal Disease

Diarrheal disease remains an important cause of morbidity and mortality among young children in Rwanda. Oral rehydration therapy (ORT) and supplemental zinc, combined with continued feeding, are the recommended interventions for treating diarrhea. ORT may be provided in the form of increased fluids (especially increased breastfeeding), as fluid prepared from a packet of oral rehydration salts (ORS), or as government-recommended homemade fluids (RHF). Zinc has been demonstrated to reduce both the severity and duration of diarrhea; therefore, it is recommended that all children with diarrhea receive a 5-day course of zinc.

10.5.1 Diarrhea and Care-seeking Behaviour

Care seeking for diarrhea

Children with diarrhea for whom advice or treatment was sought.

Sample: Children under age 5 with diarrhea in the 2 weeks before the survey

Among children under age 5, 15% were reported to have had diarrhea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey (**Table 10.11**). Treatment or advice was sought for 65% of children who had diarrhea.

10.5.2 Feeding Practices

Appropriate feeding practices

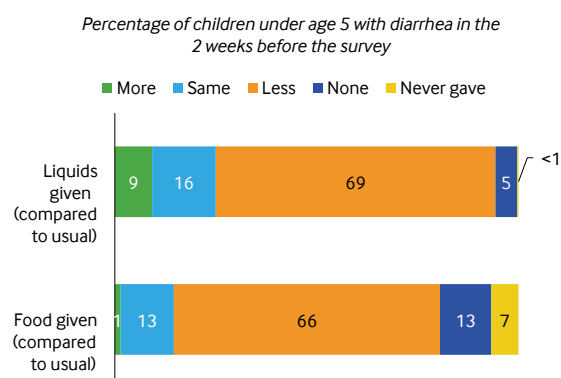
Children with diarrhea who received more liquids than usual and as much food or more than usual.

Sample: Children under aged 5 years with diarrhea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey



Only 9% of children under age 5 with diarrhea in the 2 weeks before the survey were given more liquids than usual, while 16% received the same amount of liquids. Furthermore, 31% of children were given somewhat less liquid than usual, 39% were given much less liquid than usual, and 5% received no liquid at all. Thirteen percent of children with diarrhea were given the same amount of food as usual, and 1% were given more food than usual (as recommended). In contrast, 27% of children received somewhat less food than usual, 39% were given much less food than usual, and 13% were given no food at all (**Table 10.12** and **Figure 10.3**).

Figure 10.3 Feeding practices during diarrhea



10.5.3 Oral Rehydration Therapy, Zinc, Continued Feeding, and Other Treatments

Oral rehydration therapy

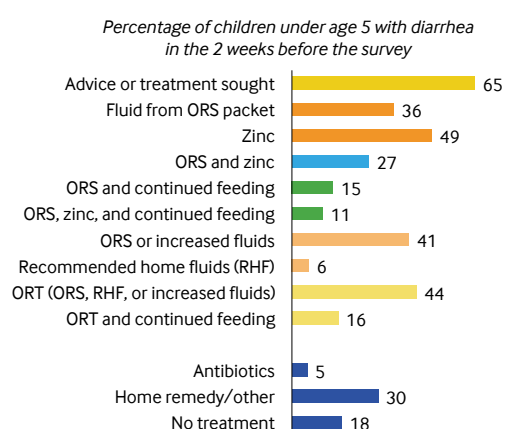
Children with diarrhea are given increased fluids, a fluid made from a special packet of oral rehydration salts (ORS), or government-recommended homemade fluids (RHF).

Sample: Children under age 5 with diarrhea in the 2 weeks before the survey

It is very important that all children with diarrhea receive increased fluids, continued feeding, and oral zinc.

However, only 44% of children under age 5 with diarrhea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey received oral rehydration therapy (ORT), including oral rehydration salts (ORS), recommended home fluids (RHF), or increased fluids. Specifically, 36% of children received ORT in the form of ORS packets or as prepackaged ORS liquid, and 41% received ORS or increased fluids. Fifteen percent of children were given ORS alongside continued feeding, and 49% received zinc. Eighteen percent of children received no treatment (**Table 10.13** and **Figure 10.4**).

Figure 10.4 Treatment of diarrhea



Trends: The percentage of children under age 5 with diarrhea in the 2 weeks before the survey who received ORT (ORS, RHF, or increased fluids) has remained relatively stable over time (43% in 2014–15, 42% in 2019–20, and 44% in 2025).

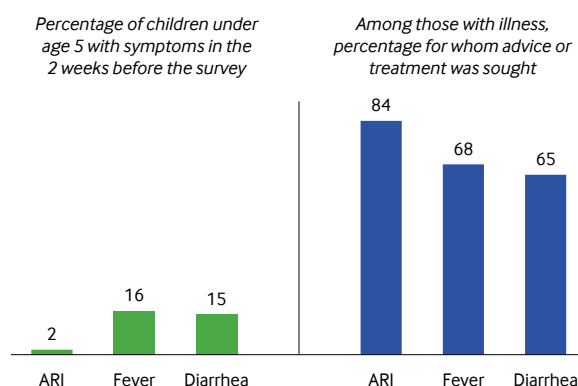
Source of Advice or Treatment for Diarrhea

Among children with diarrhea for whom advice or treatment was sought, the majority were taken to public sector facilities (72%), mostly health centres (52%). Twenty-two percent of children with diarrhea for whom advice or treatment was sought were taken to private medical sector suppliers (**Table 10.14**).

10.6 Treatment of Childhood Illness

Fever (16%) was the most common illness reported among children under age 5 in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, followed by diarrhea (15%) and symptoms of acute respiratory infection (2%). Children with ARI symptoms were most likely to be taken for advice or treatment. Advice or treatment was sought for 84% of children with ARI symptoms, 68% of children with fever, and 65% of children with diarrhea (**Figure 10.5**).

Figure 10.5 Prevalence and treatment of childhood illness



10.7 Early Child Development

Early childhood development is a multidimensional process that involves an ordered progression of motor, cognitive, language, socioemotional, and regulatory skills and capacities during the first few years of life (UNICEF 2016). While these constitute distinct domains of early childhood development, they are interconnected. Nurturing and supporting all of these dimensions in a holistic manner are essential to ensuring that children have the best chance to reach their full potential. Physical growth, literacy and numeracy skills, socioemotional development, and learning readiness set the trajectory for lifelong health, learning, and well-being (Shonkoff and Phillips 2000).

Early Childhood Development Index 2030

Early Childhood Development Index 2030 (ECDI2030)

The ECDI2030 comprises 20 items organized across three general domains: health, learning, and psychosocial well-being. Each domain is further composed of a set of core subdomains:

- **Health subdomains:** gross motor development, fine motor development, and self-care.
- **Learning subdomains:** expressive language, literacy, numeracy, pre-writing, and executive functioning.
- **Psychosocial well-being subdomains:** emotional skills, social skills, internalizing behaviour, and externalizing behaviour.

The ECDI2030 module is not designed to report on individual domains separately. Rather, it is meant to produce a single summary score that captures the interlinked developmental concepts embedded in the three domains mentioned in SDG 4.2.1.

The 2025 RDHS included the Early Childhood Development Index 2030 (ECDI2030) module, developed by UNICEF for the MICS programme. This module was administered as part of the RDHS Woman's Questionnaire. Respondents were asked 20 questions for each biological child between age 24 and 59 months living with them. The questions focused on children's behaviour in everyday situations as well as the skills and knowledge they have acquired, reflecting the increasing difficulty of the skills children acquire as they grow. The data generated from the ECDI2030 can be used to inform government efforts to improve developmental outcomes among children.

Children developmentally on track according to the Early Childhood Development Index (ECDI2030)

Percentage of children who have achieved the minimum number of ECDI2030 milestones expected for their age group as follows:

- 24–29 months: at least 7 milestones
- 30–35 months: at least 9 milestones
- 36–41 months: at least 11 milestones
- 42–47 months: at least 13 milestones
- 48–59 months: at least 15 milestones

Sample: Children aged 24–59 months

According to the ECDI2030, 72% of children aged 24–59 months are on track in terms of health, learning, and psychosocial well-being.

The index is higher among girls than among boys (74% versus 69%), and it increases with increasing mother's education and household wealth (**Table 10.15**).

List of Tables

For more information on child health, see the following tables:

- **Table 10.1** Child's size and weight at birth
- **Table 10.2** Possession and observation of vaccination cards according to background characteristics
- **Table 10.3** Vaccinations by source of information
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Table 10.1 Child's size and weight at birth

Percentage distribution of live births in the 2 years preceding the survey by mother's estimate of baby's size at birth, percentage of live births in the 2 years preceding the survey that have a reported birth weight by source of information (written record or mother's report), and among live births in the 2 years preceding the survey with a reported birth weight, percentage less than 2.5 kg, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage distribution of births by size of baby at birth based on mother's estimate					Percentage of births that have a reported birth weight according to:				Among births with a reported birth weight ¹	
	Very small	Smaller than average	Average or larger	Don't know	Total	Written record	Mother's report	Either	Number of births	Percent-age less than 2.5 kg	Number of births
Mother's age at birth											
<20	4.5	10.4	84.2	0.9	100.0	13.1	86.0	99.1	214	5.8	212
20–34	4.1	14.9	80.7	0.4	100.0	14.1	84.4	98.6	1,999	9.2	1,971
35–49	4.5	14.8	80.3	0.4	100.0	11.4	86.2	97.6	726	8.8	709
Birth order											
1	4.4	17.3	78.2	0.2	100.0	15.5	83.5	99.0	944	9.1	935
2–3	4.9	13.6	81.3	0.2	100.0	13.5	85.3	98.8	1,201	10.1	1,186
4–5	3.1	14.1	82.2	0.6	100.0	9.4	88.3	97.7	562	7.1	549
6+	2.6	9.2	86.3	1.9	100.0	14.1	81.2	95.3	231	5.7	221
Mother's smoking status											
Smokes cigarettes/ tobacco	*	*	*	*	100.0	*	*	*	19	*	17
Does not smoke	4.2	14.4	80.9	0.4	100.0	13.4	85.0	98.4	2,920	8.7	2,874
Residence											
Urban	4.3	11.2	84.2	0.3	100.0	14.0	85.3	99.3	877	7.3	871
Rural	4.2	15.9	79.4	0.5	100.0	13.1	84.8	98.0	2,063	9.5	2,020
Province											
City of Kigali	2.7	10.5	86.1	0.7	100.0	9.0	89.9	98.9	410	6.7	405
Southern Province	4.7	18.2	76.9	0.2	100.0	14.1	84.9	99.0	634	10.9	628
Western Province	4.6	15.4	79.4	0.6	100.0	9.4	88.7	98.2	622	9.8	611
Northern Province	4.6	12.0	83.4	0.0	100.0	14.9	84.6	99.5	397	7.3	395
Eastern Province	4.1	14.3	81.2	0.5	100.0	17.0	80.3	97.3	876	8.3	852
Mother's education											
No education	7.0	15.4	76.1	1.5	100.0	10.1	85.0	95.1	142	15.0	135
Primary	4.3	15.1	80.1	0.4	100.0	12.8	85.4	98.2	1,780	9.2	1,747
Secondary	3.8	14.0	81.9	0.3	100.0	14.8	84.3	99.2	907	7.9	900
More than secondary	1.9	7.6	90.5	0.0	100.0	16.0	83.1	99.1	110	3.5	109
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	5.9	16.7	76.6	0.8	100.0	14.3	82.5	96.9	701	10.5	679
Second	3.8	14.7	81.1	0.3	100.0	13.2	85.0	98.1	600	9.8	588
Middle	4.9	16.4	78.5	0.2	100.0	12.6	86.3	98.9	559	10.8	552
Fourth	3.3	14.2	82.5	0.0	100.0	12.8	86.7	99.5	577	7.4	574
Highest	2.7	9.4	87.2	0.7	100.0	14.0	84.9	98.9	503	5.0	497
Total	4.2	14.5	80.9	0.4	100.0	13.4	85.0	98.4	2,939	8.8	2,891

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Based on either a written record or the mother's recall

Table 10.2 Possession and observation of vaccination cards according to background characteristics

Percentage of children aged 12–23 months and children aged 24–35 months who ever had a vaccination card, and percentage with a vaccination card seen, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Children aged 12–23 months			Children aged 24–35 months		
	Percentage who ever had a vaccination card ¹	Percentage with a vaccination card seen ¹	Number of children	Percentage who ever had a vaccination card ¹	Percentage with a vaccination card seen ¹	Number of children
Sex						
Male	91.1	81.0	714	97.2	83.7	675
Female	89.5	78.3	689	97.7	86.6	702
Birth order						
1	89.9	79.1	429	98.6	81.2	423
2–3	88.7	79.3	581	97.3	88.0	559
4–5	93.1	80.0	272	96.8	85.9	272
6+	93.1	82.2	122	95.8	84.2	123
Residence						
Urban	87.5	69.7	414	95.0	75.1	438
Rural	91.5	83.8	990	98.6	89.9	939
Province						
City of Kigali	83.1	64.4	188	94.0	71.5	203
Southern Province	93.8	88.5	291	98.9	89.2	294
Western Province	92.2	79.0	290	97.6	88.3	308
Northern Province	95.9	82.8	210	99.3	88.7	189
Eastern Province	87.0	79.2	425	97.2	85.1	382
Mother's education						
No education	94.3	82.3	79	97.5	86.1	93
Primary	91.8	81.2	875	97.5	86.4	827
Secondary	86.6	76.8	407	97.6	83.5	387
More than secondary	87.7	69.9	43	96.0	78.8	70
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	92.6	82.5	354	97.2	86.6	303
Second	91.0	83.1	281	99.1	92.1	270
Middle	92.2	82.4	262	98.0	87.8	268
Fourth	85.9	73.3	269	97.5	82.1	272
Highest	88.9	75.3	237	95.6	76.9	264
Total	90.3	79.6	1,404	97.5	85.2	1,377

¹ Vaccination card, booklet, or other home-based record



Table 10.3 Vaccinations by source of information

Percentage of children aged 12–23 months and children aged 24–35 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey, by source of information (vaccination card or mother's report), and percentage who received specific vaccines by the appropriate age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Vaccine	Children aged 12–23 months				Children aged 24–35 months			
	Vaccinated at any time before the survey according to:			Vaccinated by appropriate age ^{2,3}	Vaccinated at any time before the survey according to:			Vaccinated by appropriate age ^{3,4}
	Vaccination card ¹	Mother's report	Either source (crude coverage)		Vaccination card ¹	Mother's report	Either source (crude coverage)	
BCG	78.7	19.4	98.1	98.1	84.4	14.0	98.4	98.3
DPT-HepB-Hib								
1	79.4	19.5	98.9	98.9	85.2	13.7	98.9	98.9
2	79.3	19.4	98.7	98.7	85.1	13.4	98.6	98.5
3	78.9	18.6	97.5	97.3	84.4	12.6	97.0	96.7
Polio								
OPV 0 (birth dose)	73.9	18.5	92.5	92.4	80.3	13.8	94.1	94.1
OPV 1	79.6	19.3	98.9	98.9	85.2	13.8	99.0	99.0
OPV 2	79.4	18.6	97.9	97.8	85.1	12.8	97.9	97.8
OPV 3	78.9	18.2	97.0	96.6	84.7	12.0	96.7	96.4
IPV	72.8	18.4	91.2	90.8	78.6	13.6	92.2	91.6
Pneumococcal								
1	79.4	19.3	98.8	98.8	85.1	13.4	98.5	98.5
2	79.4	18.6	98.0	97.9	85.1	12.7	97.8	97.7
3	79.0	17.6	96.6	95.9	84.6	11.6	96.3	96.0
Rotavirus								
1	79.3	19.4	98.7	98.7	85.1	13.7	98.8	98.7
2	78.9	18.6	97.6	97.5	84.9	12.9	97.8	97.6
Measles and rubella								
1	78.0	18.6	96.7	95.4	84.1	13.6	97.7	93.8
2	na	na	na	na	80.7	11.9	92.6	91.6
Fully vaccinated (basic antigens)⁵	77.0	17.2	94.2	92.6	82.9	11.6	94.5	90.4
Fully vaccinated (according to national schedule)⁶	66.8	14.7	81.5	79.7	71.3	9.4	80.6	77.3
No vaccinations	0.0	0.8	0.8	na	0.0	0.8	0.8	na
Number of children	1,118	286	1,404	1,404	1,173	204	1,377	1,377

na = Not applicable

BCG = Bacille Calmette-Guérin; DPT = Diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus; HepB = Hepatitis B; Hib = *Haemophilus influenzae* type b; OPV = Oral polio vaccine; IPV = Inactivated polio vaccine

¹ Vaccination card, booklet, or other home-based record

² Received by age 12 months

³ For children whose vaccination information is based on the mother's report, date of vaccination is not collected. The proportions of vaccinations given during the first and second years of life are assumed to be the same as for children with a written record of vaccination.

⁴ Received by age 12 months for all vaccines except measles and rubella 2, which should be received by age 24 months

⁵ BCG, three doses of DPT-HepB-Hib, three doses of polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth), and one dose of measles and rubella

⁶ For children aged 12–23 months: BCG, three doses of DPT-HepB-Hib, four doses of OPV, one dose of IPV, three doses of pneumococcal vaccine, two doses of rotavirus vaccine, and one dose of measles and rubella. For children aged 24–35 months: all of the vaccines just listed plus a second dose of measles and rubella.

Table 10.4 Vaccinations by background characteristics

Percentage of children aged 12–23 months and children aged 24–35 months who received specific vaccines at any time before the survey (according to a vaccination card or the mother's report), percentage fully vaccinated (basic antigens), percentage fully vaccinated according to the national schedule, and percentage who received no vaccinations, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Children aged 12–23 months																			Children aged 24–35 months		
	DPT-HepB-Hib				OPV ¹				Pneumococcal				Rotavirus		Measles and rubella 1	Fully vaccinated (basic anti-gens) ²	Fully vaccinated according to national schedule ³	No vaccinations	Number of children	Measles and rubella 2	Fully vaccinated according to national schedule ⁴	Number of children
	BCG	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	IPV	1	2	3	1	2								
Sex																						
Male	98.2	98.8	98.5	96.9	91.6	98.6	97.3	96.3	91.3	98.7	97.8	96.2	98.6	97.3	96.4	93.1	79.8	0.7	714	92.4	79.9	675
Female	98.0	99.0	99.0	98.2	93.4	99.1	98.6	97.8	91.2	98.8	98.2	96.9	98.8	97.9	96.9	95.4	83.3	0.9	689	92.7	81.3	702
Birth order																						
1	97.5	98.8	98.8	97.0	91.4	98.2	97.6	97.1	91.0	98.5	97.7	96.0	98.7	97.9	97.5	94.5	81.2	1.0	429	94.8	83.6	423
2–3	98.4	98.9	98.7	98.2	93.8	99.3	97.8	97.4	91.9	98.8	98.2	97.2	98.7	97.8	96.9	95.0	83.3	0.7	581	94.1	81.2	559
4–5	98.0	99.1	99.1	97.5	92.6	98.7	98.4	96.8	91.7	99.1	98.0	96.3	99.1	97.2	94.5	91.9	79.6	0.9	272	93.5	80.9	272
6+	99.0	98.9	98.1	96.2	89.8	99.5	98.7	95.7	87.9	98.9	98.1	96.2	98.0	96.2	97.9	94.8	78.5	0.0	122	76.2	66.9	123
Vaccination card ⁵																						
Seen	98.8	99.7	99.6	99.1	92.8	99.9	99.7	99.0	91.4	99.8	99.7	99.1	99.6	99.1	98.0	96.7	83.9	0.0	1,118	94.7	83.7	1,173
Not seen or no longer has	94.2	95.5	94.8	91.1	91.3	94.2	90.7	89.1	93.8	93.9	90.9	87.2	94.8	90.6	91.6	83.8	73.8	4.5	150	83.7	66.6	169
Never had	96.7	96.0	96.0	91.9	90.8	95.6	91.7	89.4	86.7	96.0	92.2	85.9	96.0	92.7	91.6	85.8	70.5	3.3	136	(65.2)	(46.1)	35
Residence																						
Urban	97.9	98.5	98.5	97.0	95.1	98.1	96.9	96.7	93.4	98.1	97.9	96.3	98.5	96.6	95.2	92.7	85.0	1.5	414	92.5	83.9	438
Rural	98.2	99.1	98.8	97.8	91.4	99.2	98.4	97.2	90.3	99.0	98.0	96.7	98.8	98.0	97.3	94.9	80.0	0.5	990	92.6	79.1	939
Province																						
City of Kigali	95.5	96.4	96.4	95.1	94.5	96.8	95.5	95.5	92.1	96.8	96.8	95.6	96.8	93.8	91.4	88.8	83.7	3.2	188	88.8	81.1	203
Southern Province	98.5	99.9	99.2	98.6	93.5	99.5	98.2	97.9	93.6	99.9	98.4	97.7	99.1	98.4	98.7	96.2	85.0	0.1	291	95.7	82.7	294
Western Province	99.3	100.0	100.0	98.7	91.5	99.7	99.0	98.2	93.2	99.3	98.2	96.6	100.0	99.5	98.5	96.2	82.7	0.0	290	93.4	81.2	308
Northern Province	98.4	98.5	98.5	98.5	95.1	99.0	98.5	98.5	94.6	98.3	98.3	98.1	98.0	98.0	98.0	97.4	89.4	1.0	210	96.0	86.9	189
Eastern Province	98.0	98.7	98.7	96.5	90.1	98.7	97.9	95.6	86.2	98.7	98.0	95.5	98.7	97.2	95.8	92.4	73.5	0.6	425	89.9	75.2	382
Mother's education																						
No education	94.6	96.2	95.0	92.1	85.7	96.2	92.6	89.7	85.6	95.0	95.0	92.1	96.2	92.5	93.2	86.7	72.7	3.8	79	82.9	71.0	93
Primary	98.6	99.6	99.6	98.4	91.7	99.4	98.9	98.0	91.0	99.4	98.8	97.5	99.4	98.8	96.8	94.9	80.3	0.3	875	92.5	80.6	827
Secondary	98.0	98.3	98.0	96.9	95.2	98.5	97.3	96.7	92.5	98.5	97.2	95.6	97.9	96.2	97.1	94.4	85.0	1.0	407	94.7	81.8	387
More than secondary	95.9	95.9	95.9	95.9	95.3	95.9	93.5	93.5	94.8	95.2	95.2	95.2	95.9	95.9	95.9	93.5	90.9	4.1	43	94.9	86.5	70
Wealth quintile																						
Lowest	97.5	98.9	98.9	96.3	87.1	99.0	98.0	95.7	89.9	98.9	97.8	95.3	98.9	97.8	95.3	92.4	75.0	0.8	354	89.3	74.0	303
Second	98.9	99.7	99.0	98.5	91.6	99.6	97.6	97.1	90.0	99.6	98.0	97.6	99.2	97.1	98.7	95.2	78.5	0.0	281	93.0	83.3	270
Middle	98.4	98.6	98.6	97.9	96.6	99.1	99.1	97.9	88.9	98.2	97.4	96.3	98.6	97.7	94.9	94.3	82.2	0.9	262	93.7	81.6	268
Fourth	98.3	99.2	99.2	98.3	94.0	98.5	97.6	97.6	93.2	99.1	99.1	98.0	99.2	99.2	97.4	94.6	87.5	0.4	269	94.9	82.0	272
Highest	97.4	97.9	97.9	97.0	95.1	97.9	97.3	97.3	94.9	97.9	97.7	96.2	97.5	95.8	97.4	95.5	87.2	2.1	237	92.5	83.0	264
Total	98.1	98.9	98.7	97.5	92.5	98.9	97.9	97.0	91.2	98.8	98.0	96.6	98.7	97.6	96.7	94.2	81.5	0.8	1,404	92.6	80.6	1,377

Note: Children are considered to have received the vaccine if it was either written on the child's vaccination card or reported by the mother. For children whose vaccination information is based on the mother's report, date of vaccination is not collected. The proportions of vaccinations given during the first and second years of life are assumed to be the same as for children with a written record of vaccination.

BCG = Bacille Calmette-Guérin; DPT = Diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus; HepB = Hepatitis B; Hib = *Haemophilus influenzae* type b; OPV = Oral polio vaccine; IPV = Inactivated polio vaccine

¹ OPV 0 is the polio vaccination given at birth.

² BCG, three doses of DPT-HepB-Hib, three doses polio vaccine (excluding polio vaccine given at birth), and one dose of measles and rubella

³ BCG, three doses of DPT-HepB-Hib, four doses of OPV, one dose of IPV, three doses of pneumococcal vaccine, two doses of rotavirus vaccine, and one dose of measles and rubella

⁴ BCG, three doses of DPT-HepB-Hib, four doses of OPV, one dose of IPV, three doses of pneumococcal vaccine, two doses of rotavirus vaccine, and two doses of measles and rubella

⁵ Vaccination card, booklet, or other home-based record

Table 10.5 Source of vaccinations

Among children aged 12–23 months and children aged 24–35 months who received at least one vaccination, percentage distribution by source of most vaccinations, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Children aged 12–23 months who received at least one vaccination					Children aged 24–35 months who received at least one vaccination				
	Source of most vaccinations				Number of children	Source of most vaccinations				Number of children
	Public medical sector	Private medical sector	Other	Total		Public medical sector	Private medical sector	Other	Total	
Sex										
Male	99.2	0.2	0.6	100.0	709	98.0	1.5	0.5	100.0	671
Female	98.1	1.2	0.7	100.0	683	99.6	0.4	0.0	100.0	694
Birth order										
1	99.1	0.6	0.2	100.0	424	98.7	1.0	0.3	100.0	419
2–3	98.6	0.8	0.6	100.0	577	99.0	0.8	0.2	100.0	557
4–5	98.0	0.9	1.1	100.0	270	98.6	1.0	0.4	100.0	270
6+	99.2	0.0	0.8	100.0	122	98.9	1.1	0.0	100.0	119
Residence										
Urban	97.9	1.9	0.2	100.0	407	97.8	2.2	0.0	100.0	433
Rural	99.0	0.2	0.8	100.0	985	99.3	0.3	0.3	100.0	932
Province										
City of Kigali	97.4	2.3	0.3	100.0	182	95.9	4.1	0.0	100.0	199
Southern Province	99.3	0.7	0.0	100.0	290	99.1	0.6	0.3	100.0	291
Western Province	98.8	0.4	0.7	100.0	290	99.2	0.4	0.4	100.0	307
Northern Province	98.5	0.0	1.5	100.0	208	99.4	0.6	0.0	100.0	187
Eastern Province	98.8	0.5	0.7	100.0	422	99.6	0.1	0.3	100.0	381
Mother's education										
No education	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	76	99.0	1.0	0.0	100.0	93
Primary	99.1	0.1	0.8	100.0	872	99.6	0.0	0.4	100.0	818
Secondary	98.3	1.2	0.5	100.0	403	98.5	1.5	0.0	100.0	383
More than secondary	(91.1)	(8.9)	(0.0)	100.0	41	91.3	8.7	0.0	100.0	70
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	99.2	0.0	0.8	100.0	352	99.7	0.3	0.0	100.0	301
Second	99.6	0.0	0.4	100.0	281	99.2	0.5	0.4	100.0	269
Middle	99.0	0.0	1.0	100.0	260	99.2	0.4	0.4	100.0	267
Fourth	99.2	0.0	0.8	100.0	268	99.6	0.0	0.4	100.0	269
Highest	95.8	4.2	0.0	100.0	232	96.3	3.7	0.0	100.0	260
Total	98.7	0.7	0.6	100.0	1,393	98.8	0.9	0.2	100.0	1,365

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

Table 10.6 Children with symptoms of ARI and care seeking for symptoms of ARI

Among children under age 5, percentage who had symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, and among children with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Among children under age 5:		Among children under age 5 with symptoms of ARI:		
	Percentage with symptoms of ARI ¹	Number of children	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought ²	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought the same or next day ²	Number of children
Age in months					
<6	1.1	718	*	*	8
6–11	2.5	735	*	*	18
12–23	1.7	1,404	*	*	23
24–35	2.4	1,377	(74.9)	(31.6)	32
36–47	1.7	1,491	(87.7)	(40.4)	25
48–59	1.4	1,331	*	*	19
Sex					
Male	2.0	3,554	79.6	34.7	70
Female	1.6	3,502	89.0	31.8	56
Mother's smoking status					
Smokes cigarettes/tobacco	(1.0)	35	*	*	0
Does not smoke	1.8	7,020	83.7	33.2	126
Cooking fuels and technologies					
Clean fuel and technology ³	1.5	273	*	*	4
Solid fuel ⁴	1.8	6,772	85.3	34.2	122
Gasoline/diesel	*	1	*	*	0
Other fuel	*	3	*	*	0
No food cooked in household	*	7	*	*	0
Residence					
Urban	1.2	2,149	(72.8)	(38.4)	26
Rural	2.0	4,907	86.7	32.1	100
Province					
City of Kigali	0.8	1,013	*	*	8
Southern Province	2.5	1,518	(93.1)	(23.2)	37
Western Province	1.5	1,541	(76.7)	(43.3)	24
Northern Province	1.9	979	*	*	19
Eastern Province	1.9	2,004	(84.1)	(35.3)	38
Mother's education					
No education	1.6	437	*	*	7
Primary	2.1	4,291	86.1	29.7	91
Secondary	1.1	2,007	*	*	22
More than secondary	1.8	321	*	*	6
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	1.9	1,590	(80.2)	(28.2)	31
Second	2.8	1,399	(83.3)	(35.1)	39
Middle	1.8	1,378	*	*	24
Fourth	1.0	1,363	*	*	14
Highest	1.4	1,326	*	*	18
Total	1.8	7,056	83.8	33.4	126

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Symptoms of ARI include short, rapid breathing that is chest-related and/or difficult breathing that is chest-related.

² Includes advice or treatment from the following sources: public sector, private medical sector, and shop. Excludes advice or treatment from a traditional practitioner, church, friend, or relative.

³ Includes stoves/cookers using electricity, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)/natural gas/biogas, solar, and alcohol/ethanol

⁴ Includes coal/lignite, charcoal, wood, straw/shrubs/grass, agricultural crops, animal dung/waste, processed biomass (pellets) or woodchips, garbage/plastic, and sawdust



Table 10.7 Source of advice or treatment for children with symptoms of ARI

Percentage of children under age 5 with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks preceding the survey for whom advice or treatment was sought from specific sources, and among children under age 5 with symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks preceding the survey for whom advice or treatment was sought, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from specific sources, Rwanda DHS 2025

Source	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from each source:	
	Among children with symptoms of ARI ¹	Among children with symptoms of ARI for whom advice or treatment was sought ¹
Public sector	69.8	80.7
Referral hospital	1.1	1.3
Provincial/district hospital	8.9	10.3
Health centre	44.6	51.6
Health post	11.0	12.7
CHW	9.7	11.3
Private medical sector	14.8	17.1
Polyclinic hospital	1.5	1.8
Private clinic	2.9	3.3
Dispensary	7.1	8.2
Family planning clinic	3.3	3.8
Other private sector	2.2	2.5
Traditional practitioner	2.2	2.5
Other	1.1	1.3
Number of children	126	109

Note: Advice or treatment for children with symptoms of ARI may have been sought from more than one source.

CHW = Community health worker

¹ Symptoms of ARI include short, rapid breathing that is chest-related and/or difficult breathing that is chest-related.

Table 10.8 Children with fever and care seeking, prompt treatment, and diagnosis

Percentage of children under age 5 with a fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, and among children under age 5 with fever, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought the same or next day following the onset of fever, percentage who took antibiotics, percentage who had blood taken from a finger or heel for testing, and percentage who were diagnosed with malaria by a health care provider, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Children under age 5:		Children under age 5 with fever:					
	Percentage with a fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey	Number of children	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought ¹	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought the same or next day ¹	Percentage who took antibiotics	Percentage who had blood taken from a finger or heel for testing	Percentage who were diagnosed with malaria by a health care provider	Number of children with fever
Age in months								
<6	8.4	718	57.8	36.6	51.0	29.1	3.4	60
6–11	19.7	735	67.0	38.8	53.1	37.0	2.9	145
12–23	20.3	1,404	74.4	35.8	50.7	43.3	3.0	286
24–35	16.5	1,377	66.3	29.1	44.9	45.9	8.3	227
36–47	14.8	1,491	67.8	27.8	48.6	50.7	10.8	221
48–59	12.9	1,331	65.4	30.9	40.0	46.7	11.8	171
Sex								
Male	16.0	3,554	68.6	34.0	47.3	44.6	6.2	568
Female	15.5	3,502	67.8	30.9	48.3	43.9	7.9	542
Residence								
Urban	12.1	2,149	69.5	37.8	50.6	45.7	9.2	260
Rural	17.3	4,907	67.8	30.9	46.9	43.8	6.3	849
Province								
City of Kigali	9.2	1,013	67.9	28.5	44.7	61.0	24.5	93
Southern Province	19.9	1,518	68.5	29.5	52.2	48.2	5.5	301
Western Province	11.4	1,541	63.4	32.2	46.2	31.7	4.1	175
Northern Province	16.6	979	65.2	35.9	45.2	38.1	3.6	163
Eastern Province	18.8	2,004	71.5	34.6	46.8	45.5	6.7	377
Mother's education								
No education	15.2	437	56.4	20.6	49.0	36.7	6.3	66
Primary	16.9	4,291	65.7	30.0	46.1	41.5	6.7	723
Secondary	14.4	2,007	76.2	38.6	50.8	51.4	8.1	289
More than secondary	9.7	321	(76.2)	(59.1)	(55.9)	(58.4)	(4.2)	31
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	20.2	1,590	60.3	23.5	42.8	36.8	6.7	322
Second	16.5	1,399	70.5	30.5	46.8	46.0	5.3	230
Middle	14.8	1,378	69.5	35.1	48.0	47.9	9.4	204
Fourth	14.6	1,363	69.9	39.5	51.7	46.8	6.0	199
Highest	11.7	1,326	77.1	41.8	54.1	49.0	8.3	155
Total	15.7	7,056	68.2	32.5	47.8	44.2	7.0	1,110

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Includes advice or treatment from the following sources: public sector, private medical sector, and shop. Excludes advice or treatment from a traditional practitioner, church, friend, or relative.

Table 10.9 Source of advice or treatment for children with fever

Percentage of children under age 5 with a fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey for whom advice or treatment was sought from specific sources, and among children under age 5 with a fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey for whom advice or treatment was sought, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from specific sources, Rwanda DHS 2025

Source	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from each source:	
	Among children with fever	Among children with fever for whom advice or treatment was sought
Public sector	54.7	77.1
Referral hospital	0.2	0.3
Provincial/district hospital	1.9	2.7
Health centre	38.2	53.9
Health post	8.9	12.6
CHW	7.0	9.8
Private medical sector	13.6	19.1
Polyclinic hospital	0.4	0.6
Private clinic	2.7	3.8
Dispensary	9.2	13.0
Pharmacy	0.6	0.8
Family planning clinic	0.8	1.1
Other private sector	2.4	3.4
Traditional practitioner	1.9	2.7
Friend /relative	0.5	0.7
Other	0.6	0.9
Number of children	1,110	787

Note: Advice or treatment for children with fever may have been sought from more than one source.

CHW = Community health worker

Table 10.10 Type of antimalarial drugs used

Among children under age 5 with a fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey who took any antimalarial medication, percentage who took specific antimalarial drugs, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of children who took:				Number of children with fever who took antimalarial drug
	Any ACT	Quinine	Artesunate	Other antimalarial	
Sex					
Male	*	*	*	*	27
Female	(94.0)	(2.2)	(2.7)	(3.3)	38
Residence					
Urban	*	*	*	*	17
Rural	(97.4)	(1.7)	(0.0)	(2.6)	48
Total	96.5	1.3	1.6	1.9	65

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

ACT = Artemisinin-based combination therapy



Table 10.11 Children with diarrhea and care seeking for diarrhea

Percentage of children under age 5 who had diarrhea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, and among children with diarrhea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage with blood in the stools and percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage with diarrhea	Number of children	Among children under age 5 with diarrhea:		
			Percentage with blood in the stools	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought ¹	Number of children with diarrhea
Age in months					
<6	4.4	718	(0.0)	(37.3)	32
6–11	21.5	735	6.7	61.8	158
12–23	25.6	1,404	8.0	67.3	359
24–35	16.2	1,377	14.6	65.5	223
36–47	10.3	1,491	5.3	64.6	154
48–59	7.8	1,331	9.5	65.1	103
Sex					
Male	15.9	3,554	9.5	64.7	564
Female	13.3	3,502	7.7	64.2	465
Source of drinking water ²					
Improved	14.2	5,770	8.6	65.8	819
Unimproved	15.4	820	12.3	55.2	126
Surface	17.8	466	4.6	65.5	83
Type of toilet facility ³					
Improved sanitation facility	13.8	6,010	8.2	66.8	831
Unimproved facility	19.4	890	11.7	58.5	172
Open defecation	16.5	156	*	*	26
Residence					
Urban	12.4	2,149	5.9	65.2	267
Rural	15.5	4,907	9.7	64.3	762
Province					
City of Kigali	10.5	1,013	3.1	61.0	107
Southern Province	14.7	1,518	10.9	63.8	224
Western Province	14.6	1,541	8.7	65.8	225
Northern Province	12.7	979	14.2	57.8	124
Eastern Province	17.4	2,004	7.2	67.6	349
Mother's education					
No education	17.8	437	5.6	68.2	78
Primary	16.3	4,291	10.0	62.7	701
Secondary	11.4	2,007	6.8	67.8	228
More than secondary	6.9	321	*	*	22
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	19.9	1,590	12.1	58.5	316
Second	15.4	1,399	9.7	62.1	215
Middle	13.0	1,378	8.7	65.0	179
Fourth	14.7	1,363	4.6	73.0	200
Highest	9.0	1,326	4.8	69.7	119
Total	14.6	7,056	8.7	64.5	1,029

Note: Advice or treatment for children with diarrhea may have been sought from more than one source. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Includes advice or treatment from the following sources: public sector, private medical sector, and shop. Excludes advice or treatment from a traditional practitioner, church, friend, or relative.

² See Table 16.1 for definition of categories.

³ See Table 16.6 for definition of categories.

Table 10.12 Feeding practices during diarrhea

Percentage distribution of children under age 5 who had diarrhea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey by amount of liquids and food given compared with normal practice, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Amount of liquids given							Amount of food given							Number of children with diarrhea	
	More	Same as usual	Some-what less	Much less	None	Don't know/missing	Total	More	Same as usual	Some-what less	Much less	None	Never gave food	Don't know/missing		Total
Age in months																
<6	(20.9)	(37.3)	(20.7)	(11.6)	(9.5)	(0.0)	100.0	(0.0)	(0.0)	(3.2)	(6.9)	(0.0)	(89.9)	(0.0)	100.0	32
6–11	7.7	10.0	30.4	46.1	5.8	0.0	100.0	2.4	9.6	24.8	37.0	15.6	10.6	0.0	100.0	158
12–23	5.9	15.6	29.9	42.4	5.9	0.3	100.0	0.6	12.2	25.0	44.1	13.8	4.3	0.0	100.0	359
24–35	13.5	15.3	29.8	34.2	6.3	0.9	100.0	2.1	13.7	28.1	37.7	15.2	2.2	0.9	100.0	223
36–47	11.3	15.8	33.3	35.9	3.6	0.0	100.0	2.6	17.6	29.1	41.2	7.6	1.9	0.0	100.0	154
48–59	7.0	20.0	35.3	34.8	2.9	0.0	100.0	0.0	18.4	34.6	36.8	10.2	0.0	0.0	100.0	103
Sex																
Male	10.0	17.7	29.5	37.0	5.5	0.3	100.0	1.6	15.1	27.7	35.4	12.7	7.2	0.3	100.0	564
Female	8.2	13.5	32.2	40.3	5.4	0.3	100.0	1.3	10.8	25.2	44.0	12.6	6.0	0.1	100.0	465
Breastfeeding status ¹																
Breastfeeding	8.0	15.0	29.7	41.1	6.1	0.0	100.0	1.1	10.1	24.1	39.7	14.6	10.4	0.0	100.0	587
Not breastfeeding	12.7	15.9	29.3	34.4	6.1	1.6	100.0	2.4	16.1	27.8	37.9	12.0	2.7	1.1	100.0	184
Residence																
Urban	10.3	12.2	26.8	45.3	4.8	0.6	100.0	1.6	9.2	25.5	43.4	12.5	7.5	0.2	100.0	267
Rural	8.8	17.1	32.1	36.1	5.7	0.2	100.0	1.4	14.5	26.9	37.9	12.7	6.4	0.2	100.0	762
Province																
City of Kigali	12.4	8.1	20.5	54.2	4.9	0.0	100.0	1.6	8.1	24.1	51.0	12.4	2.8	0.0	100.0	107
Southern Province	11.2	12.5	32.1	37.0	6.5	0.7	100.0	3.0	11.2	22.4	35.3	20.2	7.6	0.3	100.0	224
Western Province	10.9	17.9	29.4	33.1	8.7	0.0	100.0	2.3	17.6	24.5	36.7	12.3	6.6	0.0	100.0	225
Northern Province	3.7	21.8	33.8	36.3	3.2	1.2	100.0	0.0	14.4	31.0	36.0	13.4	4.0	1.2	100.0	124
Eastern Province	7.9	16.7	32.8	38.9	3.6	0.0	100.0	0.4	12.7	29.7	41.2	7.9	8.2	0.0	100.0	349
Mother's education																
No education	8.9	16.5	30.0	38.5	6.0	0.0	100.0	2.7	12.4	28.8	41.2	14.8	0.0	0.0	100.0	78
Primary	8.3	15.7	31.6	38.5	5.6	0.3	100.0	1.0	13.1	26.6	40.0	12.1	7.0	0.2	100.0	701
Secondary	12.0	15.7	29.9	36.9	5.2	0.3	100.0	2.6	14.0	25.9	34.3	14.4	8.6	0.3	100.0	228
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	22
Wealth quintile																
Lowest	5.5	16.8	33.1	38.9	5.7	0.0	100.0	0.7	12.7	29.8	40.0	12.3	4.4	0.0	100.0	316
Second	6.9	11.3	35.0	41.7	5.1	0.0	100.0	2.1	10.3	27.4	39.5	12.6	8.1	0.0	100.0	215
Middle	11.6	21.8	30.6	30.1	5.9	0.0	100.0	1.5	19.0	21.4	35.1	14.9	8.0	0.0	100.0	179
Fourth	12.6	13.0	27.6	40.3	4.9	1.5	100.0	1.0	10.6	28.0	38.5	11.9	8.9	1.0	100.0	200
Highest	14.2	16.6	22.3	41.4	5.6	0.0	100.0	2.9	15.0	21.5	44.8	11.5	4.2	0.0	100.0	119
Total	9.2	15.8	30.7	38.5	5.4	0.3	100.0	1.4	13.2	26.5	39.3	12.7	6.7	0.2	100.0	1,029

Note: It is recommended that children be given more liquids to drink during diarrhea and that food not be reduced. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Breastfeeding status is captured for children aged 0–35 months only.



Table 10.13 Oral rehydration salts, zinc, continued feeding, and other treatments for diarrhea

Among children under age 5 who had diarrhea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey, percentage given fluid from an ORS packet or prepackaged ORS fluid; zinc; ORS and zinc; ORS and continued feeding; ORS, zinc, and continued feeding; ORS or increased fluids; recommended homemade fluids (RHF); oral rehydration therapy (ORT); ORT and continued feeding; and other treatments, and percentage given no treatment, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of children with diarrhea who were given:														Percentage given no treatment	Number of children with diarrhea
	Fluid from ORS packet or pre-packaged ORS liquid	Zinc	ORS and zinc	ORS and continued feeding ¹	ORS, zinc, and continued feeding ¹	ORS or in-creased fluids	Recom-mended home fluids (RHF)	ORT (ORS, RHF, or in-creased fluids)	ORT and continued feeding ¹	Anti-biotic drugs	Anti-motility drugs	Intra-venous solution	Home remedy/ other	Don't know		
Age in months																
<6	(5.9)	(13.2)	(2.5)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(26.9)	(0.0)	(26.9)	(0.0)	(4.0)	(3.5)	(3.1)	(17.1)	(0.0)	(45.3)	32
6–11	34.8	37.5	19.3	11.1	5.2	39.3	4.5	39.3	13.1	4.6	3.0	0.3	28.0	0.0	22.5	158
12–23	36.5	52.1	28.6	13.8	11.8	39.7	7.9	43.8	15.0	6.2	3.7	0.3	31.0	0.0	16.9	359
24–35	35.1	50.8	28.2	11.6	8.4	44.0	3.0	46.2	14.7	5.4	3.7	0.8	34.3	0.5	16.2	223
36–47	40.4	59.3	34.9	17.3	15.5	45.3	7.4	47.0	19.5	8.1	2.6	2.0	31.1	0.0	12.8	154
48–59	40.2	50.2	27.7	28.6	18.2	42.6	8.1	47.2	29.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	26.3	0.0	14.3	103
Sex																
Male	34.1	49.5	26.7	15.6	11.4	40.0	5.8	42.6	17.5	5.4	2.9	0.7	33.4	0.2	15.9	564
Female	38.2	48.9	27.7	13.1	10.3	42.9	6.3	45.5	14.8	5.4	3.7	0.7	26.7	0.0	19.7	465
Residence																
Urban	31.9	44.9	21.4	9.5	6.4	38.6	4.5	41.6	11.1	7.7	6.5	2.0	35.0	0.0	13.7	267
Rural	37.4	50.8	29.1	16.2	12.4	42.3	6.6	44.7	18.1	4.6	2.1	0.3	28.8	0.2	19.0	762
Province																
City of Kigali	28.6	41.0	16.7	4.3	0.0	37.3	2.3	39.2	4.3	7.3	6.2	2.8	38.0	0.0	13.0	107
Southern Province	38.4	50.0	30.0	15.8	12.1	44.5	5.6	46.4	17.8	6.9	4.3	0.2	34.4	0.0	15.1	224
Western Province	35.8	54.5	28.9	13.6	10.1	42.8	3.8	43.3	15.8	3.8	2.2	0.9	26.0	0.0	20.9	225
Northern Province	38.7	41.2	24.9	16.6	13.4	41.5	14.2	49.4	19.5	5.4	2.1	0.0	29.4	0.0	16.4	124
Eastern Province	35.7	50.8	28.1	16.6	13.0	39.4	6.0	42.2	18.1	4.9	2.6	0.5	28.6	0.3	19.0	349
Mother's education																
No education	43.6	59.4	35.5	21.8	18.8	51.1	2.7	51.1	24.9	2.3	0.0	0.0	19.8	0.0	20.0	78
Primary	33.8	48.9	26.1	13.4	10.2	39.2	6.3	41.9	14.7	5.7	2.2	0.5	30.5	0.2	18.5	701
Secondary	40.6	46.3	28.8	16.3	11.0	44.8	6.8	48.1	19.1	4.9	5.7	1.5	34.2	0.0	15.0	228
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	22
Wealth quintile																
Lowest	31.8	44.0	24.8	15.7	12.4	35.3	5.6	38.1	17.6	3.9	1.2	0.0	28.8	0.4	22.0	316
Second	37.4	51.4	30.2	14.3	10.3	41.5	7.1	44.0	16.2	3.4	1.0	0.4	32.6	0.0	18.6	215
Middle	38.5	53.2	30.0	15.2	12.9	47.0	7.7	50.6	16.3	4.3	1.8	0.5	26.8	0.0	17.4	179
Fourth	37.8	51.2	25.6	14.2	10.1	44.1	5.3	45.7	15.9	8.1	5.9	1.0	34.3	0.0	12.5	200
Highest	37.4	50.2	25.8	11.0	6.1	43.7	4.1	46.2	13.4	10.1	10.4	2.8	29.2	0.0	13.4	119
Total	35.9	49.3	27.1	14.5	10.9	41.3	6.0	43.9	16.3	5.4	3.2	0.7	30.4	0.1	17.6	1,029

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

ORS = Oral rehydration salts

¹ Continued feeding includes children who were given more, the same as usual, or somewhat less food during the diarrhea episode.



Table 10.14 Source of advice or treatment for children with diarrhea

Percentage of children under age 5 with diarrhea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey for whom advice or treatment was sought from specific sources; among children under age 5 with diarrhea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey for whom advice or treatment was sought, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from specific sources; among children with diarrhea who received ORS, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from specific sources; and among children with diarrhea who were given zinc tablets or syrup, percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from specific sources, Rwanda DHS 2025

Source	Percentage for whom advice or treatment was sought from each source:			
	Among children with diarrhea	Among children with diarrhea for whom advice or treatment was sought	Among children with diarrhea who received ORS ¹	Among children with diarrhea who were given zinc
Public sector	50.1	71.7	83.2	77.9
Referral hospital	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Provincial/district hospital	1.6	2.3	2.9	2.8
Health centre	36.2	51.8	63.0	57.7
Health post	6.9	9.9	9.2	9.5
CHW	6.8	9.8	10.5	10.2
Private medical sector	15.3	22.0	13.3	19.7
Polyclinic hospital	2.6	3.7	3.4	3.5
Private clinic	2.6	3.7	3.4	3.5
Dispensary	10.7	15.4	7.5	14.4
Pharmacy	1.0	1.4	1.0	0.7
Family planning clinic	1.1	1.5	1.2	1.1
Other private sector	5.7	8.2	0.7	1.3
Traditional practitioner	3.7	5.3	0.7	1.1
Friend/relative	2.2	3.2	0.0	0.2
Number of children	1,029	718	370	507

Note: Advice or treatment for children with diarrhea may have been sought from more than one source.

CHW = Community health worker

ORS = Oral rehydration salts

¹ Fluids from ORS packet or prepackaged ORS fluid

Table 10.15 Early Childhood Development Index 2030

Percentage of children aged 24–59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning, and psychosocial well-being, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Early Childhood Development Index 2030 ¹	Number of children aged 24–59 months
Sex		
Male	69.1	1,948
Female	74.0	2,016
Residence		
Urban	72.6	1,193
Rural	71.1	2,771
Province		
City of Kigali	68.5	557
Southern Province	74.2	855
Western Province	70.6	902
Northern Province	77.2	573
Eastern Province	68.8	1,076
Age in months		
24–35	72.8	1,332
36–47	73.8	1,385
48–59	67.8	1,247
Mother's education		
No education	65.0	289
Primary	68.2	2,429
Secondary	79.0	1,043
More than secondary	82.8	203
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	60.9	855
Second	68.1	786
Middle	73.9	804
Fourth	75.6	747
Highest	80.5	772
Total	71.6	3,964

¹ SDG indicator 4.2.1

Key Findings

- **Nutritional status of children:** 27% of children under age 5 are stunted (too short for their age), 1% are wasted (too thin for their height), 6% are underweight (too thin for their age), and 5% are overweight or obese (heavy for their height).
- **Growth monitoring:** 68% of children under age 5 had their weight measured in the 3 months preceding the survey, while 63% had their height measured.
- **Breastfeeding:** Among children aged 0–23 months, 79% were put to the breast within 1 hour of birth and 94% were exclusively breastfed for the first 2 days after birth; 82% of children under age 6 months are exclusively breastfed.
- **Complementary feeding:** 44% of children aged 6–23 months received the minimum number of food groups during the day or night preceding the interview, 48% were fed the minimum number of times, and 27% were fed a minimum acceptable diet. 34% of children aged 6–23 months were given sweet beverages, 26% were given unhealthy foods, and 15% were not given vegetables or fruits.
- **Nutritional status of women:** 35% of women aged 20–49 years are overweight or obese, and 4% are thin. Among adolescent girls aged 15–19 years, 21% are overweight or obese and 7% are thin.

Nutrition is the foundation for the health and development of children and adults. This chapter reports on the nutritional status of children and adults, infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices, and women's dietary practices. In addition, the chapter presents key nutrition interventions, including infant and young child feeding counselling, child growth monitoring, micronutrient supplementation, and deworming for children. Chapter 9 presents information on nutritional interventions provided during the antenatal period, such as maternal nutrition counselling, breastfeeding counselling, deworming, iron-containing supplementation and its sources, and postnatal breastfeeding counselling and observation. Chapter 10 presents information on child feeding practices during diarrhoea.

11.1 Nutritional Status of Children

Anthropometry is commonly used to measure child nutritional status. The anthropometric measurements are used to report on child growth indicators. The distribution of height and weight among children under age 5 was compared with the WHO Child Growth Standards reference population (WHO 2006). The distribution of a well-nourished population will be similar to that of the reference population, while the distribution of a poorly nourished population will differ. The indices height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age can be expressed in standard deviation units (z scores) from the median of the reference population. Values that are greater than two standard deviations below the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards are used to define malnutrition.

Stunting, or low height-for-age, is a measure of growth faltering. It serves as a marker of the deficient growth environment to which children have been exposed and reflects the overall well-being of a population (Perumal et al. 2018). While suboptimal nutrition can contribute to stunting, other causes include recurrent infection and chronic diseases. However, many of the causes of stunting are complex and remain unknown (WHO 2014).

Wasting, or low weight-for-height, is a measure of acute undernutrition. It represents a failure to receive adequate nutrition in the period immediately preceding the survey. Wasting may result from inadequate food intake or from a recent episode of illness or infection leading to weight loss.

Underweight, or low weight-for-age, is a composite index of weight-for-height and height-for-age. It reflects children who are stunted, wasted, or both.

Overweight, or high weight-for-height, results from an imbalance between energy consumed (too much) and energy expended (too little).

Stunting (assessed via height-for-age)

Height-for-age is a measure of growth faltering. Children whose height-for-age z score is below minus two standard deviations (-2 SD) from the median of the reference population are considered short for their age (stunted). Children whose z score is below minus three standard deviations (-3 SD) from the median are considered severely stunted.

Sample: Children under age 5

Wasting (assessed via weight-for-height)

The weight-for-height index measures body mass in relation to body height or length and describes acute undernutrition. Children whose weight-for-height z score is below minus two standard deviations (-2 SD) from the median of the reference population are considered thin (wasted). Children whose z score falls more than three standard deviations (-3 SD) below the median are considered severely wasted.

Sample: Children under age 5

Underweight (assessed via weight-for-age)

Weight-for-age is an indicator that reflects both acute and chronic forms of malnutrition. It is influenced by low weight-for-height (wasting) and low height-for-age (stunting). Children whose weight-for-age z score is below minus two standard deviations (-2 SD) from the median of the reference population are classified as underweight. Children whose z score is below minus three standard deviations (-3 SD) from the median are considered severely underweight.

Sample: Children under age 5

Overweight (assessed via weight-for-height)

Children whose weight-for-height z score is more than two standard deviations ($+2$ SD) above the median of the reference population are considered overweight.

Sample: Children under age 5

The means of the z scores for height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age are also calculated as summary statistics representing the nutritional status of children within a population. These mean scores describe the nutritional status of the entire population of children without the use of a cutoff point. A mean z score of less than 0 (a negative mean value for stunting, wasting, or underweight) suggests a downward shift in the nutritional status of the entire sample population relative to the reference population. The further the mean z scores deviate from 0, the higher the prevalence of malnutrition.



Child Growth Measures of Malnutrition

Information on anthropometry training, standardization, and data collection methodology is provided in Chapter 1. The results of the standardization process are presented in Appendix C, Table C.7. The 2025 RDHS identified a total of 7,310 children under age 5 who were eligible for height and weight measurements (Appendix C, Table C.8). Valid height-for-age measurements were obtained for 99% of eligible children, valid weight-for-height measurements were obtained for 99% of eligible children, and valid weight-for-age measurements were obtained for over 99% of eligible children (Appendix C, Table C.8).

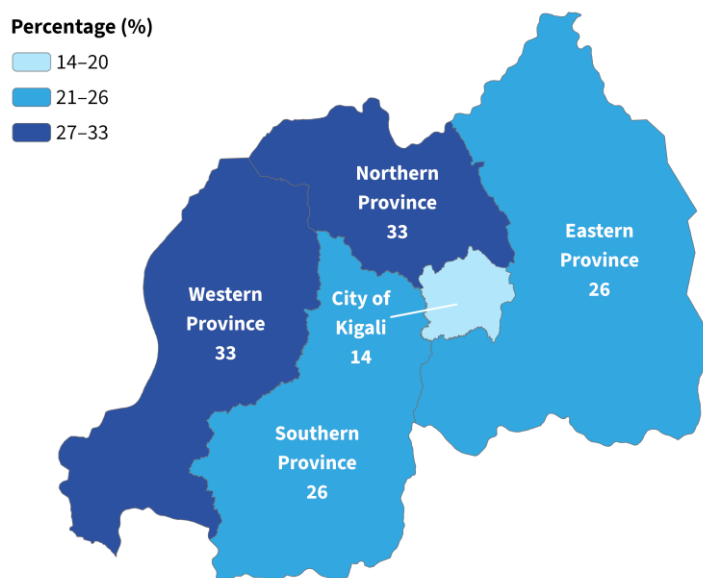
As described in Chapter 1, data collection included remeasurement of children. The calculation of final z scores was based on the first measurement among children randomly selected for remeasurement, while the calculation of final z scores was based on the second measurement among children flagged for remeasurement. The remeasurement completion rate was over 99% among those selected for remeasurement. Appendix C, Tables C.8–C.10 provide additional information on the completeness and quality of anthropometry data for children, remeasurement data, and the interference of hairstyles, ornamentation, and heavy clothing with height and weight measurements (WHO and UNICEF 2019).

Table 11.1 shows the nutritional status of children under age 5 according to the three anthropometric indices. Among children under age 5, 27% are stunted (including 6% who are severely stunted), 1% are wasted, and 5% are overweight.

Notable differences in the prevalence of stunting are observed among the provinces, ranging from 14% in the City of Kigali to 33% in the Northern Province and Western Province (**Map 11.1**). Nutritional status of children by district is presented in Appendix D, Table D.4.

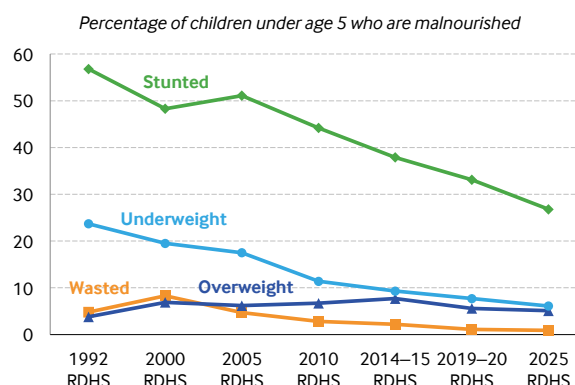
Map 11.1 Stunting in children by province

Percentage of children under age 5 who are stunted



Trends: A comparison of anthropometric measurements from previous RDHS surveys shows that there has been improvement in the nutritional status of children under age 5 in the last two decades. The prevalence of stunting declined from 51% in 2005 to 27% in 2025 (**Figure 11.1**). The percentage of children who are wasted declined from 8% in 2000 to 1% in 2025. The percentage of children classified as overweight has fluctuated between 5% and 8% over the last two decades.

Figure 11.1 Trends in child growth measures



11.2 Growth Monitoring and Promotion

Growth monitoring and promotion programmes include monitoring children's nutritional status through physical growth measurements and using this information to provide counselling to caregivers and referrals for children whose growth appears abnormal (WHO 2013; WHO 2017a). An important component of growth monitoring is the regular measurement of children's weight, length or height, and/or mid-upper-arm circumference (MUAC).

Weight measured in the last 3 months

Percentage of children under age 5 who had their weight measured in the last 3 months.

Weight and height measured in the last 3 months

Percentage of children under age 5 who had their weight and height measured in the last 3 months.

Mid-upper-arm circumference (MUAC) measured in the last 3 months

Percentage of children under age 5 who had their MUAC measured in the last 3 months.

Weight, height, and MUAC measured in the last 3 months

Percentage of children under age 5 who had their weight, height, and MUAC measured in the last 3 months.

Sample: Children under age 5

Among children aged 0–59 months, 68% had a weight measurement taken in the 3 months preceding the survey, 63% had a height measurement taken, and 61% had a MUAC measurement taken (**Table 11.2**). Overall, 62% of children had height and weight measurements taken, and 58% had all three measurements taken (height, weight, and MUAC).

11.3 Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices

Optimal infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices are essential to the health and survival of young children. Recommended IYCF practices include early initiation of breastfeeding (within the first hour after birth), exclusive breastfeeding for the first 2 days after birth, exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months of life, continued breastfeeding for 2 years or more, and the introduction of safe, appropriate, and adequate complementary foods at age 6 months. This section reports on IYCF indicators for children under age 2 (WHO and UNICEF 2021).

11.3.1 Ever Breastfed, Early Initiation of Breastfeeding, and Exclusive Breastfeeding for the First 2 Days after Birth

Breastfeeding supports children's growth and development and also benefits mothers' health. Initiation of breastfeeding within the first hour of birth is important for both the mother and the child. The first breast milk contains colostrum, which is highly nutritious and has antibodies that protect the newborn from infections. Early initiation of breastfeeding also encourages bonding between the mother and her newborn, especially through skin-to-skin contact, which facilitates the production of breast milk. Feeding newborns anything other than breast milk in the first 2 days after birth can delay early initiation of breastfeeding and interrupt exclusive breastfeeding and is not recommended unless medically indicated (WHO and UNICEF 2021).

Ever breastfed

Percentage of children born in the last 2 years who were ever breastfed.

Early initiation of breastfeeding

Percentage of children born in the last 2 years who were put to the breast within 1 hour of birth.

Exclusive breastfeeding for the first 2 days after birth

Percentage of children born in the last 2 years who were fed exclusively with breast milk for the first 2 days after birth.

Sample: Children born in the last 2 years

Breastfeeding is nearly universal in Rwanda, with 98% of children born in the 2 years preceding the survey ever having been breastfed (**Table 11.3**). Approximately 4 in 5 children (79%) under age 2 were breastfed within 1 hour of birth and 94% were exclusively breastfed, defined as receiving nothing other than breast milk to eat or drink during the first 2 days after delivery.

Trends: The percentage of children born in the 2 years preceding the survey who have ever been breastfed has remained nearly universal over the last three decades. Early initiation of breastfeeding increased steadily from 45% in 2000 to 85% in 2019–20 before declining to 79% in 2025.

11.3.2 Exclusive Breastfeeding and Mixed Milk Feeding

During the first 6 months of life, children should be exclusively breastfed; that is, they should receive nothing but breast milk. Exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months reduces the risk of infections that can lead to diarrhoea and respiratory illnesses and provides all of the nutrients and liquid an infant requires for optimal growth and development. Mixed milk feeding, in which children are fed both breast milk and formula or animal milk within the first 6 months, has the adverse effect of reducing breast milk output, as the production of breast milk is modulated by the frequency and intensity of suckling. Mixed feeding before age 6 months may also increase children's risk of diarrhoea, alter their intestinal microflora, and lead to early cessation of breastfeeding (WHO and UNICEF 2021).



Exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months

Percentage of children aged 0–5 months who were fed exclusively with breast milk during the previous day.

Sample: Youngest children aged 0–5 months living with their mother

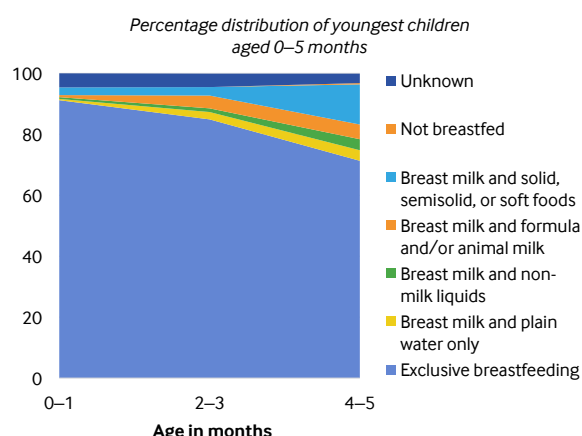
Mixed milk feeding under 6 months

Percentage of children aged 0–5 months who were fed both breast milk and formula and/or animal milk during the previous day.

Sample: Youngest children aged 0–5 months living with their mother

Table 11.4, Table 11.5, and Figure 11.2 show the pattern of how children are fed during the first 6 months. Overall, 82% of children aged 0–5 months are exclusively breastfed in accordance with WHO recommendations, while 18% are not fed according to the recommended guidelines (**Table 11.5**). Among the latter group, 2% are receiving breast milk and plain water only, 2% are receiving breast milk and non-milk liquids, 3% are receiving breast milk and formula and/or animal milk, and 7% are receiving breast milk and solid, semi-solid, or soft foods; in the case of 4% of children, the caregiver did not recall how the child was fed. At age 0–1 month, 91% of children are exclusively breastfed as per WHO recommendations. By age 2–3 months, the percentage of children exclusively breastfed declines to 85%. By age 4–5 months, this percentage declines sharply to 71% as more children receive liquids or foods other than breast milk.

Figure 11.2 Infant feeding practices by age



Trends: Exclusive breastfeeding among children aged 0–5 months has remained above 80% since 1992. Exclusive breastfeeding decreased from 87% in 2014–15 to 81% in 2019–20 before increasing slightly to 82% in 2025.

11.3.3 Continued Breastfeeding and Bottle Feeding

Breastfeeding should continue for the first 2 years or beyond because breast milk lowers children’s risk of illness, promotes their recovery during illness, and remains an important source of nutrients for healthy growth and development. Longer durations of breastfeeding have many health benefits for women, including reducing risks of certain breast and ovarian cancers and diabetes. The nipple on a feeding bottle is susceptible to contamination and increases the risk of disease among children (WHO and UNICEF 2021). Thus, bottle feeding is not recommended for children under age 2.

Continued breastfeeding 12–23 months

Percentage of children aged 12–23 months who were fed breast milk during the previous day.

Sample: Children aged 12–23 months

Bottle feeding 0–23 months

Percentage of children aged 0–23 months who were fed from a bottle with a nipple during the previous day.

Sample: Children aged 0–23 months

Among children aged 12–23 months, 90% are currently breastfed. In contrast, 9% of children aged 0–23 months are bottle fed (**Table 11.4**).

11.3.4 Introduction of Complementary Foods

After the first 6 months, breast milk alone is no longer sufficient to meet all of an infant’s nutritional needs. After age 6 months, appropriate complementary foods should be introduced while breastfeeding continues until age 2 or older. The transition from exclusive breastfeeding to complementing breastfeeding with family foods is when children are most vulnerable to becoming undernourished. During this time, it is important that children receive solid, semisolid, or soft foods (WHO 2003; WHO and UNICEF 2021). **Table 11.6** and **Table 11.7** show the types of liquids and foods consumed by children under age 2 during the day or night preceding the interview.

Introduction of solid, semisolid, or soft foods 6–8 months

Percentage of children aged 6–8 months who were fed solid, semisolid, or soft foods during the previous day.

Sample: Youngest children aged 6–8 months living with their mother

Overall, 89% of children were introduced to solid, semisolid, or soft foods at aged 6–8 months (**Table 11.10**).

11.3.5 Minimum Dietary Diversity, Minimum Meal Frequency, Minimum Milk Feeding Frequency, Minimum Acceptable Diet, and Egg and/or Flesh Food Consumption

Infants and young children should be fed a minimum acceptable diet, meaning they receive meals with appropriate frequency and a variety of foods to meet their energy and nutrient needs. The minimum acceptable diet indicator is a combination of minimum dietary diversity and minimum meal frequency for breastfed children and the same combination along with minimum milk feeding frequency for nonbreastfed children.

Minimum dietary diversity serves as a proxy for adequate micronutrient density of foods. Consumption of foods from at least five groups indicates that the child has a higher likelihood of consuming at least one animal-source food and at least one fruit or vegetable in addition to a staple food such as grains, roots, or tubers. The five groups should come from a list of eight categories: breast milk; grains, roots, and tubers; legumes and nuts; dairy products (milk, yogurt, and cheese); flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, and organ meat); eggs; vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables; and other fruits and vegetables.

Minimum meal frequency serves as a proxy for meeting energy requirements. Breastfed children aged 6–8 months are considered to be fed with a minimum meal frequency if they receive solid, semisolid, or soft foods at least twice per day. Breastfed children aged 9–23 months are considered to be fed with a minimum meal frequency if they receive solid, semisolid, or soft foods at least three times per day. Nonbreastfed children aged 6–23 months are considered to be fed with a minimum meal frequency if they receive solid, semisolid, or soft foods or milk feeds at least four times per day and if at least one of these feeds consists of solid, semisolid, or soft food.

Minimum milk feeding frequency is a proxy for meeting the nutrient needs of nonbreastfed children, as milk and milk products are important sources of nutrients. Nonbreastfed children aged 6–23 months are considered to be fed with a minimum milk feeding frequency if they receive at least two feeds of milk and/or milk products per day.

Consumption of eggs and/or flesh foods by both breastfed and nonbreastfed children aged 6–23 months increases energy, protein, and nutrient intake. Eggs, meat, fish, poultry, and organ meats are important sources of nutrients that support healthy child growth (WHO and UNICEF 2021).



Minimum dietary diversity 6–23 months

Percentage of children aged 6–23 months who were fed a minimum of five out of eight defined food groups during the previous day. The eight food groups are as follows: breast milk; grains, roots, and tubers; legumes and nuts; dairy products (milk, yogurt, and cheese); flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, and organ meat); eggs; vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables; and other fruits and vegetables.

Minimum meal frequency 6–23 months

Percentage of children aged 6–23 months who were fed solid, semisolid, or soft foods (including milk feeds for nonbreastfed children) the minimum number of times or more during the previous day.

Minimum milk feeding frequency 6–23 months

Percentage of nonbreastfed children aged 6–23 months who received at least two milk feeds during the previous day.

Minimum acceptable diet 6–23 months

Percentage of children aged 6–23 months who were fed a minimum acceptable diet during the previous day. This indicator is a composite of children fed with a minimum dietary diversity and a minimum meal frequency, with the additional requirement that nonbreastfed children are fed with a minimum milk feeding frequency.

Sample: Youngest children aged 6–23 months living with their mother

Egg and/or flesh food consumption 6–23 months

Percentage of children aged 6–23 months who were fed eggs and/or flesh food during the previous day.

Sample: Youngest children aged 6–23 months living with their mother

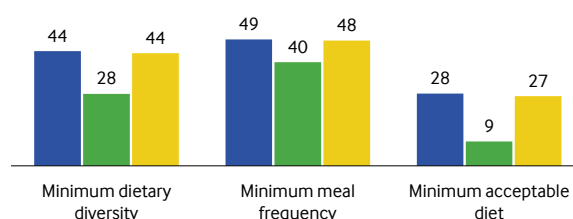
Figure 11.3 and Table 11.8 show that, overall, 44% of children aged 6–23 months received the minimum number of food groups during the previous day (minimum dietary diversity). The percentage was higher among breastfed children (44%) than among nonbreastfed children (28%). Nearly 1 in 2 children (48%) aged 6–23 months were fed the minimum number of times (minimum meal frequency), including 49% of breastfed children and 40% of nonbreastfed children. In addition, 24% of nonbreastfed children received the minimum number of milk feeds. Only 27% of children were fed a minimum acceptable diet (28% of breastfed children and only 9% of nonbreastfed children).

Among children aged 6–23 months, only 35% consumed eggs and/or flesh food (such as meat, fish, poultry, and organ meats) the previous day (Table 11.9).

Figure 11.3 IYCF indicators on minimum acceptable diet by breastfeeding status

Percentage of children aged 6–23 months meeting feeding practice recommendations

■ Breastfed ■ Nonbreastfed ■ All children aged 6–23 months



11.3.6 Sweet Beverage Consumption, Unhealthy Food Consumption, and Zero Vegetable or Fruit Consumption among Children

Unhealthy infant and young child feeding practices should be avoided, as they can replace nutritious foods that provide important nutrients for children and promote unhealthy weight gain. Among infants and young children, consumption of sweet foods and beverages increases the risk of dental caries and obesity during childhood. In addition, excessive salt in the diet increases the risk of noncommunicable diseases, while unhealthy fats and

refined carbohydrates contribute to unhealthy weight gain. Children consuming diets low in vegetables and fruits have reduced nutrient intakes, which can negatively impact healthy growth and development. Low consumption of vegetables and fruits is also associated with noncommunicable diseases later in life. The indicator definition for unhealthy food consumption describes “sentinel unhealthy foods,” defined as foods high in sugar, salt, and/or unhealthy fats that are commonly consumed by infants and young children (WHO and UNICEF 2021).

Sweet beverage consumption 6–23 months

Percentage of children aged 6–23 months who were given a sweet beverage during the previous day.

Unhealthy food consumption 6–23 months

Percentage of children aged 6–23 months who were fed sentinel unhealthy foods during the previous day.

Zero vegetable or fruit consumption 6–23 months

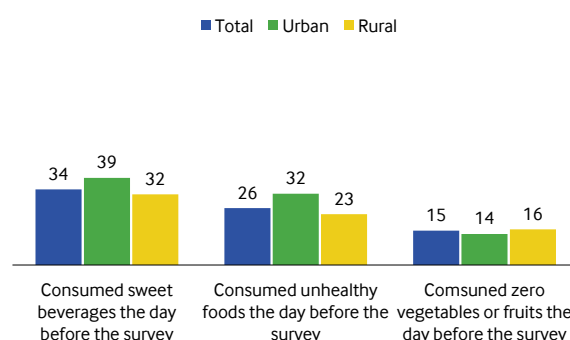
Percentage of children aged 6–23 months who were not fed any vegetables or fruits during the previous day.

Sample: Youngest children aged 6–23 months living with their mother

Table 11.9 presents the percentage of children aged 6–23 months with unhealthy feeding practices. Specifically, 34% of children consumed a sweet beverage, 26% consumed unhealthy foods, and 15% did not consume any vegetables or fruits during the previous day or night. **Figure 11.4** shows that sweet beverage consumption and unhealthy foods consumption among children aged 6–23 months is higher in urban areas (39% and 32%, respectively) than in rural areas (32% and 23%, respectively). Conversely, the percentage of children who consumed no fruits or vegetables is slightly lower in urban areas than in rural areas (14% and 16%, respectively).

Figure 11.4 Unhealthy feeding practices among children aged 6–23 months by residence

Percentage of children aged 6–23 months



11.3.7 Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Indicators

Table 11.10 summarizes all 17 WHO-UNICEF IYCF indicators.

11.4 Infant and Young Child Feeding Counselling

IYCF counselling helps support appropriate breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices (WHO 2003; WHO 2018). Counselling is an interactive process that empowers mothers and caregivers to follow the recommended IYCF practices. Counselling can take place in both health facilities and the community and is delivered by trained health providers, community health workers, and others in the community.

Mothers who received IYCF counselling in the last 6 months

Percentage of mothers with children aged 6–23 months who received IYCF counselling in the last 6 months from a health care provider or community health worker.

Sample: Women whose youngest child aged 6–23 months is living with them

Table 11.11 shows that among mothers of children aged 0–23 months, 36% received counselling in the 6 months preceding the survey on how or what to feed their child and 36% attended monthly growth monitoring and nutrition sessions conducted by community health workers during the month preceding the survey. Among women whose youngest child aged 0–23 months did not participate in monthly growth monitoring and nutrition sessions in the past month, the most commonly reported reasons for not attending these sessions were that the mother did not know about the sessions (72%) and the mother did not have time to attend the sessions (13%) (**Table 11.12**).

11.5 Micronutrient Supplementation and Deworming among Children

Micronutrient deficiency is a major contributor to childhood morbidity and mortality. Micronutrient deficiency can be caused by inadequate consumption of foods that supply vitamins and minerals, as well as from infections and genetic abnormalities. Strategies to prevent or address micronutrient deficiency include agricultural approaches such as biofortification, food-based approaches that can be complemented by food fortification, and, for specific life stages and population groups, direct micronutrient supplementation (USAID 2019).

Iron is a micronutrient that plays an important role in numerous biological systems. Iron deficiency is one of the primary causes of anemia. Interventions targeting iron deficiency and anemia include periodically giving children iron tablets or syrup and/or iron-containing micronutrient powders (WHO 2011a; WHO 2016b; WHO 2016c).

Vitamin A is a micronutrient that supports the immune system and plays an important role in maintaining the epithelial tissue in the body. Severe vitamin A deficiency can cause eye damage, increase the severity of infections such as those causing measles, and slow recovery from illness. Vitamin A supplementation programmes help reduce vitamin A deficiency and mortality in children (WHO 2011b).

Soil-transmitted helminth infections can cause internal bleeding, inflammation, impaired nutrient absorption, diarrhoea, vomiting, and loss of appetite. Deworming programmes help reduce the burden of helminth infections (WHO 2017b).

Given iron tablets or syrups 6–59 months

Percentage of children who were given iron tablets or syrup in the 12 months preceding the survey.

Given multiple micronutrient powders 6–59 months

Percentage of children who received multiple micronutrient powders in the 12 months preceding the survey.

Given iron-containing supplements 6–59 months

Percentage of children who received iron-containing supplements in the 12 months preceding the survey, including tablets, syrup, or micronutrient powders.

Sample: Children aged 6–59 months



Given vitamin A supplements 6–59 months

Percentage of children who received vitamin A supplements in the 6 months preceding the survey.

Sample: Children aged 6–59 months

Given deworming medication 12–59 months

Percentage of children who received deworming medication in the 6 months preceding the survey.

Sample: Children aged 12–59 months

Table 11.13 shows that, in the 12 months preceding the survey, 30% of children aged 6–59 months received iron tablets or syrup, 31% received multiple micronutrient powders, and 43% received iron-containing supplements, while in the 6 months preceding the survey 74% of these children received vitamin A supplements. Among children aged 12–59 months, 80% received deworming medication in the 6 months preceding the survey.

11.6 Adults' Nutritional Status

Chronic energy deficiency is caused by eating too little or having an unbalanced diet that lacks adequate nutrients. Women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) are especially vulnerable to chronic energy deficiency and malnutrition due to low dietary intakes, inequitable distribution of food within the household, improper food storage and preparation, dietary taboos, infectious diseases, and inadequate care practices. Chronic energy deficiency leads to low productivity among adults and greater morbidity and mortality (WHO 1995). In addition, undernutrition among women is a major risk factor for adverse birth outcomes. Overweight and obesity have adverse health outcomes as well. Overweight and obesity are major risk factors for several chronic diseases, including diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and cancer.

Body mass index (BMI) is the ratio of weight relative to height squared; it is used to measure nutritional status among adults aged 20–49 years. BMI values are independent of age and sex. Adult women aged 20–49 years whose height is less than 145 centimetres are classified as being of short stature.

BMI-for-age, the ratio of weight relative to height for different age groups, is used to measure nutritional status among children and adolescents aged 5–19 years (WHO 2007). BMI-for-age is sex and age specific. The reason is that adolescents are still growing and the timing of peak growth velocity differs in boys and girls. In the DHS surveys, BMI-for-age is reported among adolescents aged 15–19 years. Similarly, short stature among adolescent women (aged 15–19 years) is assessed according to low height-for-age.

Body mass index (BMI)

BMI is calculated by dividing weight in kilograms by height in metres squared (kg/m^2).

Adult status	BMI
Too thin for height	Less than 18.5
Normal	Between 18.5 and 24.9
Overweight	Between 25.0 and 29.9
Obese	Greater than or equal to 30.0

Sample: Women aged 20–49 years who are not pregnant and who have not had a birth in the 2 months preceding the survey and men aged 20–49 years



BMI-for-age

BMI-for-age is measured in z score standard deviations (SD).

Adolescent status	BMI-for-age
Too thin for height	Less than -1 SD
Normal	Between -1 SD and +1 SD
Overweight	Between +1 SD and +2 SD
Obese	Greater than +2 SD

Sample: Women aged 15–19 years who are not pregnant and who have not had a birth in the 2 months preceding the survey and men aged 15–19 years

Short stature

Percentage of women aged 20–49 years with height below 145 cm.

Sample: Women aged 20–49 years

Percentage of women aged 15–19 years with height-for-age z score less than -2 SD.

Sample: Women aged 15–19 years

11.6.1 Nutritional Status of Women

Height and weight data were collected for 7,249 eligible women aged 15–49 years (Appendix C, Table C.6). During measurements, 4% of women had hairstyles or ornamentation that interfered with height measurement, and 2% of women were not wearing lightweight clothing or wore heavy permanent ornaments that interfered with weight measurement (Appendix C, Table C.11).

Among women aged 20–49 years, data on height and weight were used to calculate two measures of nutritional status: height and body mass index (BMI). **Table 11.14.1** shows that 2% of women aged 20–49 years are shorter than 145 cm. In Rwanda, overweight and obesity among women are of greater concern than thinness. A total of 4% of women are classified as thin, of whom 3% are mildly thin and 1% are moderately or severely thin. Conversely, 35% of women are overweight or obese, with 24% classified as overweight and 11% classified as obese (**Table 11.14.1**).

Among adolescent women aged 15–19 years, data on height, weight, and age were used to calculate two measures of nutritional status: height-for-age and BMI-for-age. Overall, 11% of adolescent women are short for their age (height-for-age below -2 SD), 7% are thin (with less than 1% being moderately or severely thin), and 21% are overweight or obese (**Table 11.14.2**).

11.6.2 Nutritional Status of Men

Height and weight data were collected for 6,058 eligible men aged 15–49 years (Appendix C, Table C.6). During measurements, 4% of men had hairstyles or ornamentation that interfered with height measurement, and 2% of men were not wearing lightweight clothing or wore heavy permanent ornaments that interfered with weight measurement (Appendix C, Table C.11).

Among men aged 20–49 years, data on height and weight were used to calculate BMI. **Table 11.14.3** shows that, overall, 7% of men aged 20–49 years are thin, of whom 6% are mildly thin and 1% are moderately or severely thin. Additionally, 12% of men are overweight or obese, with 10% classified as overweight and 2% classified as obese (**Table 11.14.3**).



Among young men aged 15–19 years, data on height, weight, and age were used to calculate BMI-for-age. Overall, 35% of men aged 15–19 years are thin, of whom 30% are mildly thin and 5% are moderately or severely thin. Only 2% of young men are overweight or obese (**Table 11.14.4**).

11.7 Women's Dietary Practices

Dietary practices that support a healthy diet include consuming a variety of foods and food groups, as well as limiting consumption of sugary beverages and unhealthy foods. Eating a variety of unprocessed foods helps women obtain the appropriate amounts of essential vitamins and minerals. Furthermore, a healthy diet protects against overweight, obesity, and noncommunicable diseases.

Minimum dietary diversity for women is a validated indicator of dietary diversity for nonpregnant women aged 15–49 years. The indicator is based on 10 food groups: grains, white/pale starchy roots, tubers, and plantains; pulses (beans, peas, and lentils); nuts and seeds; dairy (milk and milk products); flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, and organ meat); eggs; dark green leafy vegetables; vitamin-A rich fruits and vegetables; other vegetables; and other fruits. Women who consumed at least five of the 10 possible food groups in the 24 hours preceding the survey were classified as having minimally adequate dietary diversity. Deficiencies in micronutrients such as iron, iodine, vitamin A, folate, and zinc can have severe consequences for the human body. Women, particularly those of childbearing age, are especially vulnerable due to their greater needs for essential vitamins and minerals. Having minimally adequate dietary diversity is therefore important for ensuring micronutrient adequacy (FAO 2021).

Consumption of unhealthy foods and sweet beverages should be limited because they are associated with overweight, obesity, and noncommunicable diseases (Askari et al. 2020). Overweight and obesity among women can affect reproductive health and increase complications in pregnancy (Mitchell and Shaw 2015). The indicator for unhealthy food consumption describes “sentinel unhealthy foods,” which are fried foods or foods high in sugar, salt, and/or unhealthy fats that are commonly consumed by women (FAO 2021).

Minimum dietary diversity for women

Percentage of women who consumed foods from at least five out of 10 defined food groups during the previous day. The 10 food groups are as follows: grains, white/pale starchy roots, tubers, and plantains; pulses (beans, peas, and lentils); nuts and seeds; dairy (milk and milk products); flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, and organ meat); eggs; dark green leafy vegetables; vitamin-A rich fruits and vegetables; other vegetables; and other fruits.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years

Sweet beverage consumption

Percentage of women who consumed sweet beverages during the previous day.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years

Unhealthy food consumption

Percentage of women who consumed selected sentinel unhealthy foods during the previous day.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years

The foods commonly consumed among women aged 15–49 years are foods made from pulses (beans, peas, lentils) (89%); white roots, tubers, and plantains (77%); and grains (65%) (**Table 11.15**). Dark green leafy vegetables and fruits and vegetables rich in vitamin A were each consumed by 60% of women during the previous day.



One in three women (33%) consumed other vegetables, and 28% consumed flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, and organ meats).

Table 11.16 shows that nearly one-third of women (32%) consumed five out of the 10 selected food groups during the previous day. Additionally, 24% of women consumed sweet beverages and 24% consumed unhealthy foods.

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- **Table 11.4** **Breastfeeding status according to age**
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Table 11.1 Nutritional status of children

Percentage of children under age 5 classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of child growth: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Height-for-age ¹				Weight-for-height					Weight-for-age			
	Percent-age below -3 SD	Percent-age below -2 SD ²	Mean z score (SD)	Number of children	Percent-age below -3 SD	Percent-age below -2 SD ²	Percent-age above +2 SD	Mean z score (SD)	Number of children	Percent-age below -3 SD	Percent-age below -2 SD ²	Mean z score (SD)	Number of children
Age in months													
<6	4.3	16.7	-0.9	717	0.2	1.2	16.8	0.9	714	2.3	5.0	-0.0	718
6–11	4.0	19.8	-1.2	731	0.8	1.4	5.9	0.4	732	1.0	5.8	-0.4	731
12–23	9.0	33.2	-1.5	1,414	0.5	1.4	4.3	0.3	1,413	1.0	7.6	-0.5	1,414
24–35	7.1	30.6	-1.4	1,457	0.1	0.6	4.9	0.4	1,460	0.4	6.0	-0.5	1,459
36–47	6.0	27.2	-1.4	1,545	0.0	0.5	3.2	0.4	1,546	0.6	5.5	-0.5	1,549
48–59	5.6	24.6	-1.3	1,429	0.0	0.6	1.8	0.2	1,427	0.5	6.0	-0.6	1,429
0–23	6.6	25.6	-1.3	2,862	0.5	1.4	7.8	0.5	2,859	1.3	6.5	-0.3	2,863
24–59	6.2	27.5	-1.4	4,431	0.0	0.6	3.3	0.4	4,433	0.5	5.8	-0.6	4,437
Sex													
Male	7.7	29.3	-1.4	3,654	0.3	1.0	6.2	0.5	3,654	0.9	6.4	-0.5	3,660
Female	5.0	24.1	-1.3	3,638	0.1	0.8	4.0	0.4	3,638	0.7	5.8	-0.5	3,640
Birth interval in months³													
First birth ⁴	5.7	24.6	-1.3	1,884	0.4	0.9	5.0	0.4	1,883	0.7	5.7	-0.4	1,885
<24	7.0	26.4	-1.3	858	0.2	0.9	6.0	0.4	856	0.9	6.0	-0.5	859
24–47	7.4	30.7	-1.5	1,779	0.2	0.9	5.1	0.4	1,779	0.6	6.4	-0.6	1,780
48+	5.2	24.7	-1.3	2,215	0.1	0.9	5.4	0.5	2,215	1.0	6.1	-0.4	2,217
Size at birth^{3,5}													
Very small	21.0	49.0	-2.1	147	3.2	3.6	3.9	0.1	149	9.3	21.4	-1.2	148
Small	11.4	38.9	-1.7	614	0.0	1.1	3.2	0.2	615	1.7	11.1	-0.8	615
Average or larger	4.9	23.7	-1.2	3,366	0.3	1.0	7.9	0.6	3,362	0.4	4.6	-0.3	3,366
Don't know	*	*	*	14	*	*	*	*	14	*	*	*	14
Mother's interview status													
Interviewed	6.2	26.5	-1.3	6,737	0.2	0.9	5.3	0.4	6,733	0.8	6.1	-0.5	6,742
Not interviewed but in household	4.4	18.4	-1.1	71	0.0	1.5	2.4	0.2	71	1.5	6.0	-0.4	71
Not interviewed and not in the household ⁶	9.2	32.0	-1.5	485	0.2	0.2	3.0	0.4	488	0.6	6.6	-0.6	487
Mother's age at birth³													
<20	7.6	32.1	-1.6	458	0.5	1.2	5.4	0.5	457	0.8	6.3	-0.5	459
20–34	6.2	25.5	-1.3	4,561	0.2	0.8	5.3	0.4	4,559	0.7	5.7	-0.4	4,565
35–49	5.7	27.5	-1.3	1,717	0.1	1.1	5.2	0.4	1,717	1.1	6.8	-0.5	1,719
Mother's nutritional status⁷													
Thin	14.7	39.0	-1.7	94	0.0	1.5	1.0	-0.2	95	1.0	15.2	-1.1	95
Normal	7.0	29.3	-1.5	1,869	0.3	1.0	3.6	0.3	1,868	0.8	6.7	-0.6	1,870
Overweight/obese	4.0	19.6	-1.1	1,077	0.1	0.4	6.4	0.5	1,073	0.8	4.1	-0.2	1,078
Residence													
Urban	3.3	18.6	-0.9	2,120	0.3	1.3	5.3	0.4	2,120	0.7	5.0	-0.3	2,123
Rural	7.6	30.1	-1.5	5,173	0.2	0.7	5.0	0.4	5,171	0.8	6.6	-0.6	5,177
Province													
City of Kigali	2.0	14.2	-0.8	975	0.2	0.8	3.7	0.3	975	0.4	5.4	-0.2	975
Southern Province	5.6	26.1	-1.4	1,622	0.2	0.7	4.0	0.3	1,623	1.1	6.8	-0.6	1,625
Western Province	9.2	32.6	-1.5	1,593	0.2	1.0	7.1	0.6	1,592	0.8	5.4	-0.5	1,596
Northern Province	5.4	32.7	-1.5	1,008	0.1	0.6	6.0	0.6	1,007	0.4	4.2	-0.4	1,008
Eastern Province	7.3	25.8	-1.3	2,094	0.3	1.1	4.6	0.3	2,094	1.0	7.3	-0.5	2,096
Mother's education⁸													
No education	9.9	37.8	-1.7	435	0.3	1.5	4.8	0.4	435	1.6	8.7	-0.7	437
Primary	7.3	29.9	-1.5	4,141	0.2	0.7	5.4	0.4	4,141	0.9	6.8	-0.5	4,144
Secondary	3.6	19.6	-1.1	1,928	0.1	1.3	5.4	0.4	1,926	0.6	4.6	-0.3	1,929
More than secondary	0.7	5.8	-0.3	303	0.3	1.4	3.5	0.3	302	0.3	1.4	0.1	303

Continued...



Table 11.1—Continued

Background characteristic	Height-for-age ¹				Weight-for-height					Weight-for-age			
	Percent-age below -3 SD	Percent-age below -2 SD ²	Mean z score (SD)	Number of children	Percent-age below -3 SD	Percent-age below -2 SD ²	Percent-age above +2 SD	Mean z score (SD)	Number of children	Percent-age below -3 SD	Percent-age below -2 SD ²	Mean z score (SD)	Number of children
Wealth quintile													
Lowest	12.0	39.8	-1.8	1,647	0.3	0.8	4.2	0.3	1,648	1.3	9.7	-0.8	1,649
Second	6.7	32.1	-1.6	1,487	0.3	0.7	5.4	0.5	1,487	0.9	7.0	-0.6	1,488
Middle	6.9	28.9	-1.4	1,460	0.1	0.6	5.2	0.5	1,460	0.7	5.4	-0.5	1,461
Fourth	3.7	19.9	-1.2	1,380	0.1	1.0	5.6	0.4	1,377	0.8	4.7	-0.4	1,381
Highest	1.1	9.2	-0.6	1,320	0.2	1.3	5.2	0.4	1,320	0.3	2.7	-0.1	1,320
Total	6.4	26.8	-1.3	7,293	0.2	0.9	5.1	0.4	7,292	0.8	6.1	-0.5	7,300

Note: Each of the indices is expressed in standard deviation units (SD) from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Recumbent length is measured for children under age 2; standing height is measured for all other children.

² Includes children who are below -3 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Child Growth Standards population median

³ Excludes children whose mothers were not interviewed

⁴ First-born twins (triplets, etc.) are counted as first births because they do not have a previous birth interval.

⁵ Information available only for children age 0–35 months

⁶ Includes children whose mothers are deceased

⁷ Excludes children whose mothers were not weighed and measured, children whose mothers were not interviewed, and children whose mothers are pregnant or gave birth within the preceding 2 months. Mother's nutritional status is defined using body mass index (BMI) for mothers aged 20–49 years and using BMI-for-age for mothers aged 15–19 years (as presented in Tables 11.14.1 and 11.14.2).

⁸ For women who are not interviewed, information is taken from the Household Questionnaire. Excludes children whose mothers are not listed in the Household Questionnaire.



Table 11.2 Child growth monitoring

Percentage of children under age 5 who had selected measurements performed by a health care provider in the 3 months preceding the survey, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Weight	Height	Mid-upper-arm circumference (MUAC)	Weight and height	Weight, height, and MUAC	Number of children
Age in months						
<6	55.3	43.5	30.4	42.6	28.7	718
6–11	73.8	69.1	64.8	67.8	61.7	735
12–23	79.2	75.8	74.9	74.6	71.2	1,404
24–35	71.4	68.1	69.1	66.9	65.2	1,377
36–47	63.4	59.3	59.0	58.8	56.4	1,491
48–59	59.0	54.8	55.6	53.7	51.7	1,331
0–23	71.8	66.0	61.1	64.8	58.1	2,857
24–59	64.6	60.8	61.3	59.9	57.8	4,199
Sex						
Male	67.8	63.4	61.7	62.3	58.5	3,554
Female	67.2	62.3	60.7	61.5	57.3	3,502
Mother's age						
15–19	66.4	59.8	59.5	58.5	54.1	534
20–29	67.1	62.3	60.4	61.4	57.2	3,279
30–39	68.0	63.9	62.4	62.8	59.2	2,690
40–49	69.0	64.5	62.1	63.8	59.2	552
Residence						
Urban	57.3	54.4	51.3	52.8	48.4	2,149
Rural	72.0	66.6	65.5	65.9	62.0	4,907
Province						
City of Kigali	56.2	54.6	51.6	52.8	49.0	1,013
Southern Province	74.5	66.9	68.3	65.9	63.4	1,518
Western Province	72.5	68.8	66.7	68.2	64.3	1,541
Northern Province	77.3	73.2	69.3	72.4	67.2	979
Eastern Province	59.4	54.4	52.5	53.4	48.7	2,004
Mother's education						
No education	69.7	66.1	64.8	65.0	61.4	437
Primary	69.0	63.5	62.8	62.8	59.1	4,291
Secondary	66.5	63.1	59.8	61.6	57.0	2,007
More than secondary	51.3	48.8	43.6	47.4	42.5	321
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	70.4	64.3	64.3	63.7	60.4	1,590
Second	72.4	67.4	65.8	66.7	62.3	1,399
Middle	72.2	67.4	65.6	66.7	62.6	1,378
Fourth	65.0	61.1	59.4	59.3	55.1	1,363
Highest	56.7	53.6	50.0	52.3	48.3	1,326
Total	67.5	62.9	61.2	61.9	57.9	7,056

Note: "Height" refers to length (recumbent measurement) or height (standing measurement).



Table 11.3 Early breastfeeding

Percentage of children born in the last 2 years who were ever breastfed, percentage who were put to the breast within 1 hour of birth, and percentage who were exclusively breastfed for the first 2 days after birth, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage ever breastfed	Percentage who were put to the breast within 1 hour of birth	Percentage exclusively breastfed for the first 2 days after birth ¹	Number of children born in the last 2 years
Sex				
Male	97.8	77.4	93.2	1,517
Female	98.7	81.2	94.4	1,422
Breastfeeding counselling during ANC²				
Counselled	98.9	81.4	94.8	1,996
Not counselled/don't know	97.7	74.4	92.5	732
Did not receive ANC	93.8	75.2	88.1	212
Assistance at delivery				
Health personnel ³	98.3	79.5	93.8	2,885
Other	(94.6)	(62.3)	(88.0)	40
No one	*	*	*	14
Place of delivery				
Health facility	98.3	79.5	93.9	2,884
At home	(99.3)	(68.4)	(93.0)	47
Other	*	*	*	9
Type of delivery				
Vaginal birth	98.1	85.9	94.6	2,247
Caesarean section	98.7	57.6	91.0	692
Breastfeeding counselling during PNC^{2,4}				
Counselled	99.0	79.1	93.9	1,792
Not counselled/don't know	98.0	81.1	95.0	1,063
Breastfeeding observation during PNC^{2,4}				
Observed	99.1	79.1	94.3	1,959
Not observed/don't know	97.7	81.6	94.4	896
Residence				
Urban	98.1	77.3	89.7	877
Rural	98.3	80.0	95.5	2,063
Province				
City of Kigali	97.8	81.9	88.5	410
Southern Province	99.2	75.0	96.0	634
Western Province	99.0	80.2	95.5	622
Northern Province	98.3	84.8	95.4	397
Eastern Province	97.1	77.8	92.6	876
Mother's education				
No education	99.3	78.9	97.2	142
Primary	98.1	81.3	94.8	1,780
Secondary	98.3	75.4	92.7	907
More than secondary	98.6	77.2	81.5	110
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	98.2	77.5	94.1	701
Second	98.3	79.1	96.3	600
Middle	97.9	81.0	95.6	559
Fourth	98.9	83.5	94.0	577
Highest	97.7	74.7	88.0	503
Total	98.2	79.2	93.8	2,939

Note: Table is based on children born in the 2 years preceding the survey regardless of whether the children were living or dead at the time of the interview. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

ANC = Antenatal care

PNC = Postnatal care

¹ Children given nothing other than breast milk to eat or drink during the first 2 days after delivery

² Information available for the most recent live birth only

³ Doctor, nurse/midwife, or auxiliary midwife

⁴ Women were asked about counselling on breastfeeding by any health care provider in the first 2 days after their most recent live birth regardless of where they gave birth.



Table 11.4 Breastfeeding status according to age

Among youngest children age 0–5 months living with their mother, percentage exclusively breastfeeding and percentage receiving mixed milk feeding; among all children aged 12–23 months, percentage currently breastfeeding; and among all children age 0–23 months, percentage using a bottle with a nipple, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Among youngest children aged 0–5 months living with their mother:			Among all children aged 12–23 months:		Among all children aged 0–23 months:	
	Percentage exclusively breastfeeding	Percentage receiving mixed milk feeding ¹	Number of children	Percentage currently breast-feeding ²	Number of children	Percentage using a bottle with a nipple	Number of children
Age in months							
0–1	91.2	0.7	220	na	na	1.2	224
2–3	84.9	4.2	224	na	na	3.6	225
4–5	71.3	8.3	265	na	na	8.0	268
6–11	na	na	na	na	na	14.5	735
12–15	na	na	na	96.0	487	11.1	487
16–19	na	na	na	91.9	474	6.8	474
20–23	na	na	na	80.7	442	8.0	442
Sex							
Male	82.1	3.4	359	90.2	714	9.3	1,473
Female	81.4	5.9	350	89.3	689	9.0	1,384
Residence							
Urban	80.4	6.9	198	86.3	414	12.5	851
Rural	82.3	3.8	512	91.2	990	7.7	2,006
Province							
City of Kigali	80.7	7.2	87	86.8	188	12.4	395
Southern Province	81.2	3.2	170	92.1	291	9.2	622
Western Province	80.6	3.9	167	88.5	290	6.1	610
Northern Province	88.4	2.8	72	94.3	210	5.7	385
Eastern Province	81.3	6.0	212	88.1	425	11.3	845
Mother's education							
No education	(82.5)	(2.1)	36	93.6	79	3.3	141
Primary	82.7	4.4	404	89.7	875	6.8	1,724
Secondary	80.4	5.3	246	90.1	407	12.9	883
More than secondary	(78.4)	(6.7)	23	81.2	43	21.6	108
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	82.4	1.2	155	90.6	354	6.0	681
Second	81.9	4.6	146	94.9	281	4.8	582
Middle	82.2	3.1	146	91.1	262	7.0	544
Fourth	79.8	7.7	143	87.2	269	11.4	562
Highest	82.6	7.5	120	84.0	237	18.3	488
Total	81.8	4.7	709	89.8	1,404	9.1	2,857

Note: Breastfeeding status refers to a "24-hour" period (yesterday during the day or at night). Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

na = Not applicable

¹ Received breast milk and infant formula and/or animal milk. Excludes yogurt drinks because they are generally not fed as a substitute for breast milk. Excludes soy and nut milks.

² Corresponds to the IYCF indicator "continued breastfeeding"

Table 11.5 Infant feeding practices by age

Percentage distribution of youngest children age 0–5 months living with their mother by feeding category, according to age in months, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age group in months	Breast milk only (exclusively breastfed)	Breast milk and plain water only	Breast milk and non-milk liquids ¹	Breast milk and animal milk and/or infant formula ²	Breast milk and solid, semisolid, or soft foods ³	Not breastfed	Unknown ⁴	Total	Number of youngest children aged 0–5 months living with their mother
0–1	91.2	0.4	0.6	0.7	2.5	0.0	4.6	100.0	220
2–3	84.9	2.4	1.2	4.2	2.8	0.0	4.4	100.0	224
4–5	71.3	3.5	3.6	4.8	13.2	0.4	3.1	100.0	265
0–5	81.8	2.2	1.9	3.4	6.6	0.2	4.0	100.0	709

Note: Breastfeeding status refers to a “24-hour” period (yesterday during the day or at night). The categories of breast milk only, breast milk and plain water only, breast milk and non-milk liquids, breast milk and formula and/or animal milk, breast milk and solid, semisolid, or soft foods, and not breastfed are hierarchical and mutually exclusive. When combined with children whose feeding category is classified as unknown due to “don’t know” responses, the percentages in each row add to 100%.

¹ Children fed breast milk along with non-milk liquids (e.g., juice, herbal tea, sweetened water, flavoured water). Children in this category may have also been fed plain water.

² Children fed breast milk along with animal milk, infant formula, and/or animal milk-based yogurt drinks. Children in this category may have also been fed non-milk liquids and/or plain water.

³ Children fed breast milk along with solid, semisolid, or soft food from any food group (e.g., grains, meat, eggs, fruits, vegetables). Children in this category may have also been fed plain water, non-milk liquids, and/or animal milk, infant formula, and animal milk-based yogurt drinks.

⁴ Not classified elsewhere due to “don’t know” responses

Table 11.6 Liquids consumed by children in the day or night preceding the interview

Percentage of youngest children under age 2 living with their mother by type of liquids consumed in the day or night preceding the interview, according to age and breastfeeding status, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age in months	Plain water	Infant formula	Animal milk		Yogurt drinks		Soy milk and nut milks		Fruit juice or fruit-flavoured drinks	Sodas, malt drinks, sports drinks, or energy drinks	Tea, coffee, or herbal drinks		Clear broth or clear soup	Other liquids		Number of youngest children under age 2 living with their mother
			Any	Sweet/flavoured	Any	Sweet/flavoured	Any	Sweet/flavoured			Any	Sweetened		Any	Sweetened	
BREASTFEEDING CHILDREN																
0–1	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	220
2–3	4.1	0.5	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	224
4–5	8.1	1.2	7.5	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.9	0.0	1.6	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.8	3.5	1.2	264
6–8	33.9	4.2	19.3	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.8	0.0	14.7	19.4	0.7	0.7	8.9	5.6	0.3	351
9–11	52.0	4.8	21.1	2.2	3.9	1.8	1.2	0.4	12.3	25.4	2.0	1.7	10.6	7.6	1.4	370
12–17	65.6	2.0	16.7	1.3	1.2	0.3	0.8	0.2	8.2	22.5	5.0	2.9	12.0	7.4	1.4	695
18–23	76.1	1.9	18.5	2.5	2.1	0.7	0.7	0.0	11.4	21.9	5.7	4.6	9.5	6.3	1.1	546
0–5	4.6	0.8	4.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0	1.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.3	2.1	0.7	708
6–11	43.2	4.5	20.2	1.5	2.3	1.1	1.0	0.2	13.5	22.5	1.4	1.2	9.8	6.6	0.9	721
12–23	70.2	2.0	17.5	1.8	1.6	0.5	0.7	0.1	9.6	22.2	5.3	3.7	10.9	6.9	1.3	1,241
6–23	60.3	2.9	18.5	1.7	1.9	0.7	0.8	0.2	11.1	22.3	3.8	2.8	10.5	6.8	1.1	1,962
Total	45.5	2.3	14.7	1.2	1.4	0.5	0.7	0.1	8.4	16.6	2.8	2.0	7.8	5.5	1.0	2,670
NONBREASTFEEDING CHILDREN																
0–1	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	0
2–3	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	0
4–5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
6–8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2
9–11	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
12–17	(60.5)	(14.2)	(31.4)	(0.0)	(4.6)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(20.9)	(12.4)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(17.9)	(3.4)	(0.0)	30
18–23	84.4	0.0	28.4	3.8	0.0	0.0	1.7	1.7	9.3	20.0	18.8	17.0	15.6	6.9	0.0	69
0–5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
6–11	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	6
12–23	77.2	4.2	29.3	2.6	1.4	0.0	1.2	1.2	12.8	17.7	13.2	11.9	16.3	5.8	0.0	99
6–23	76.6	4.0	27.7	2.5	1.3	0.0	1.1	1.1	12.1	17.7	12.4	11.3	16.7	5.5	0.0	105
Total	75.8	4.0	28.4	2.5	1.3	0.0	1.1	1.1	12.0	17.5	12.3	11.2	16.5	5.5	0.0	106

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.
nc = No cases



Table 11.7 Foods consumed by children in the day or night preceding the interview

Percentage of youngest children under age 2 living with their mother by type of foods consumed in the day or night preceding the interview, according to age and breastfeeding status, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age in months	Solid or semisolid foods													Number of youngest children under age 2 living with their mother
	Grains	White roots, tubers, and plantains	Pulses (beans, peas), lentils, nuts, and seeds	Dairy products (milk, infant formula, yogurt, cheese)	Flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, organ meats)	Eggs	Vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables	Other fruits and vegetables	Insects and other small protein foods	Red palm oil	Sweet foods ¹	Fried and salty foods ²	Other solid, semi-solid, and soft food	
BREASTFEEDING CHILDREN														
0–1	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	220
2–3	0.5	1.9	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	224
4–5	7.4	1.3	1.2	0.7	0.8	0.4	5.1	3.7	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	264
6–8	68.0	28.4	50.6	1.1	23.4	11.2	65.1	24.3	0.0	1.4	23.0	0.2	9.3	351
9–11	78.6	43.4	79.4	2.2	33.8	11.8	85.4	32.6	0.0	1.8	25.1	1.7	8.2	370
12–17	78.3	54.4	83.6	2.7	28.8	12.0	82.9	31.7	1.1	4.1	22.4	4.5	10.7	695
18–23	75.9	55.6	85.6	2.2	27.2	11.9	83.0	29.8	0.0	3.8	24.7	4.8	10.7	546
0–5	2.9	1.1	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.2	2.3	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.1	708
6–11	73.5	36.1	65.4	1.7	28.7	11.5	75.5	28.6	0.0	1.6	24.1	1.0	8.7	721
12–23	77.3	54.9	84.5	2.5	28.1	12.0	82.9	30.9	0.6	4.0	23.4	4.6	10.7	1,241
6–23	75.9	48.0	77.5	2.2	28.3	11.8	80.2	30.0	0.4	3.1	23.7	3.3	10.0	1,962
Total	56.5	35.6	57.3	1.7	21.0	8.7	59.5	22.5	0.3	2.3	17.7	2.4	7.4	2,670
NONBREASTFEEDING CHILDREN														
0–1	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	0
2–3	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	0
4–5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
6–8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2
9–11	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
12–17	(91.7)	(55.8)	(73.6)	(6.1)	(33.8)	(22.3)	(82.3)	(25.2)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(31.1)	(3.5)	(3.9)	30
18–23	80.8	52.3	87.2	3.3	38.1	19.8	82.6	32.5	0.0	1.6	30.0	2.9	14.4	69
0–5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
6–11	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	6
12–23	84.1	53.4	83.1	4.1	36.8	20.6	82.5	30.3	0.0	1.1	30.3	3.1	11.2	99
6–23	83.8	51.5	82.4	3.9	36.0	19.5	81.6	31.0	0.0	1.1	28.7	2.9	10.6	105
Total	83.0	50.9	81.5	3.9	35.7	19.3	80.8	30.7	0.0	1.1	28.4	2.9	10.5	106

Note: See the Woman's Questionnaire for the list of liquids and foods. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

nc = No cases

¹ Sentinel sweet foods such as chocolates, candies, pastries, cakes, biscuits, ice cream, or popsicles

² Sentinel fried and salty foods such as chips, crisps, puffs, French fries, fried dough, or instant noodles

Table 11.8 Minimum dietary diversity, minimum meal frequency, and minimum acceptable diet among children

Percentage of youngest children aged 6–23 months living with their mother who received minimum dietary diversity, minimum meal frequency, and minimum acceptable diet during the day or night preceding the survey, by breastfeeding status, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Among youngest breastfed children aged 6–23 months living with their mother, percentage who received:				Among youngest nonbreastfed children aged 6–23 months living with their mother, percentage who received:					Among youngest children aged 6–23 months living with their mother, percentage who received:			
	Minimum dietary diversity ¹	Minimum meal frequency ²	Minimum acceptable diet ³	Number of breastfed children aged 6–23 months	Minimum milk feeding frequency ⁴	Minimum dietary diversity ¹	Minimum meal frequency ⁵	Minimum acceptable diet ⁶	Number of non-breastfed children aged 6–23 months	Minimum dietary diversity ¹	Minimum meal frequency ⁷	Minimum acceptable diet ⁸	Number of all children aged 6–23 months
Age in months													
6–11	41.5	54.4	27.9	721	*	*	*	*	6	41.2	54.2	27.7	726
6–8	30.8	64.5	26.3	351	*	*	*	*	2	30.6	64.1	26.1	353
9–11	51.7	44.9	29.5	370	*	*	*	*	4	51.2	44.7	29.2	374
12–17	47.0	44.0	26.4	695	(29.9)	(21.1)	(44.5)	(13.5)	30	46.0	44.0	25.9	725
18–23	44.6	47.6	29.6	546	22.6	33.0	39.9	8.5	69	43.3	46.7	27.3	615
Sex													
Male	44.5	49.1	27.9	1,026	21.1	26.8	40.1	12.3	50	43.7	48.7	27.2	1,076
Female	44.1	48.5	27.8	936	25.6	28.8	39.8	6.9	55	43.3	48.1	26.7	991
Residence													
Urban	51.5	50.9	32.2	586	(33.5)	(29.6)	(51.8)	(20.4)	32	50.4	50.9	31.6	618
Rural	41.3	47.9	26.0	1,376	19.1	27.1	34.8	4.7	73	40.6	47.3	24.9	1,449
Province													
City of Kigali	50.2	48.9	31.4	279	*	*	*	*	13	48.8	48.8	30.8	293
Southern Province	51.8	54.1	34.1	422	*	*	*	*	13	51.8	53.3	33.5	435
Western Province	38.5	47.0	24.3	394	(10.7)	(20.2)	(29.6)	(2.1)	25	37.4	46.0	23.0	419
Northern Province	40.5	52.6	28.1	297	*	*	*	*	11	39.7	52.6	27.0	308
Eastern Province	42.0	44.2	23.9	569	(30.7)	(29.8)	(44.0)	(12.1)	42	41.2	44.2	23.1	612
Mother's education													
No education	29.8	28.8	14.3	100	*	*	*	*	2	29.1	28.1	13.9	102
Primary	37.8	45.3	22.0	1,202	18.8	23.1	30.4	7.6	68	37.0	44.5	21.3	1,270
Secondary	57.3	57.4	39.0	584	(31.7)	(39.5)	(54.3)	(14.6)	28	56.5	57.2	37.9	612
More than secondary	66.7	65.2	52.2	76	*	*	*	*	6	64.8	67.7	49.2	82
Wealth quintile													
Lowest	29.9	40.0	18.0	483	(17.4)	(22.8)	(25.2)	(3.9)	31	29.5	39.2	17.1	513
Second	33.6	43.2	17.7	409	*	*	*	*	14	32.7	42.5	17.1	424
Middle	48.6	52.8	31.9	365	*	*	*	*	16	47.3	52.2	31.0	381
Fourth	50.8	52.1	33.6	380	*	*	*	*	22	49.7	51.2	31.8	402
Highest	67.1	60.7	44.2	325	*	*	*	*	22	66.2	61.7	43.5	347
Total	44.3	48.8	27.9	1,962	23.5	27.8	40.0	9.4	105	43.5	48.4	26.9	2,066

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Minimum dietary diversity is receiving foods from 5 or more of the following 8 food groups: a. breast milk; b. grains, white/pale starchy roots, tubers, and plantains; c. beans, peas, lentils, nuts, and seeds; d. dairy products (tinned, powdered, or fresh animal milk; infant formula; yogurt; cheese); e. flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, organ meats); f. eggs; g. vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables; h. other fruits and vegetables.

² For breastfed children, minimum meal frequency is receiving solid, semisolid, or soft food at least twice a day for infants aged 6–8 months and at least 3 times a day for children aged 9–23 months.

³ For breastfed children, minimum acceptable diet is being fed with a minimum dietary diversity (footnote 1) and a minimum meal frequency (footnote 2).

⁴ For nonbreastfed children, minimum milk feeding frequency is 2 or more feedings of infant formula; tinned, powdered, or fresh animal milk; and liquid or solid yogurt.

⁵ For nonbreastfed children, minimum meal frequency is receiving solid, semisolid, or soft food or milk feeds at least 4 times a day. At least 1 of the feeds must be a solid, semisolid, or soft feed.

⁶ For nonbreastfed children, minimum acceptable diet is being fed with a minimum dietary diversity (footnote 1), a minimum milk feeding frequency (footnote 4), and a minimum meal frequency (footnote 5).

⁷ Minimum meal frequency is receiving the minimum recommended number of feeds per day according to age and breastfeeding status as defined in footnotes 2 and 5.

⁸ Minimum acceptable diet is being fed with a minimum dietary diversity (footnote 1), a minimum meal frequency (footnote 2 for breastfed and footnote 5 for non-breastfed children), and a minimum milk feeding frequency (footnote 4 for nonbreastfed children).



Table 11.9 Egg and/or flesh food consumption and unhealthy feeding practices among children aged 6–23 months

Percentage of youngest children aged 6–23 months living with their mother who consumed eggs and/or flesh food, and percentage who experienced each specified unhealthy feeding practice, during the day or night preceding the survey, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Eggs and/or flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, organ meats)	Unhealthy feeding practices:			Number of youngest children aged 6–23 months living with their mother
		Sweet beverage ¹	Unhealthy food ²	Zero vegetables or fruits ³	
Age in months					
6–11	33.8	34.4	24.1	20.5	726
6–8	28.6	31.3	22.9	30.7	353
9–11	38.7	37.3	25.2	10.9	374
12–17	35.2	32.3	25.2	12.9	725
18–23	35.3	35.3	27.6	12.3	615
Sex					
Male	33.9	32.2	26.1	16.1	1,076
Female	35.6	35.8	24.9	14.6	991
Breastfeeding status					
Breastfeeding	34.2	33.8	25.2	15.6	1,962
Not breastfeeding	45.4	36.4	31.6	11.4	105
Residence					
Urban	41.6	39.1	32.0	13.9	618
Rural	31.8	31.7	22.8	16.0	1,449
Province					
City of Kigali	44.8	39.2	31.2	13.2	293
Southern Province	43.0	38.8	27.0	13.2	435
Western Province	30.1	30.0	18.2	15.7	419
Northern Province	24.2	38.4	27.8	12.7	308
Eastern Province	32.5	28.4	25.7	19.1	612
Mother's education					
No education	20.6	24.0	17.1	21.9	102
Primary	29.0	29.9	22.2	17.5	1,270
Secondary	45.8	40.3	31.6	10.8	612
More than secondary	58.8	60.6	41.9	9.6	82
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	23.6	23.9	19.1	21.5	513
Second	24.9	29.3	18.2	18.8	424
Middle	36.1	29.3	26.6	11.3	381
Fourth	39.4	41.6	27.6	13.6	402
Highest	56.3	50.6	40.6	8.8	347
Total	34.7	33.9	25.5	15.4	2,066

¹ Sweet beverages include sweet/flavoured milk and yogurt drinks, sweet/flavoured soy milks or nut milks, fruit juice and fruit-flavoured drinks, chocolate-flavoured drinks, sodas, malt drinks, sports drinks, energy drinks, sweetened tea, coffee, herbal drinks, and other sweetened liquids.

² Unhealthy foods are a group of sentinel food types that include sweet foods such as chocolates, candies, pastries, cakes, biscuits, ice cream, and popsicles and fried and salty foods such as chips, crisps, puffs, French fries, fried dough, and instant noodles.

³ No vitamin A-rich fruits or vegetables and no other fruits or vegetables

Table 11.10 Infant and young child feeding (IYCF) indicators

Percentage of children fed according to various IYCF practices, Rwanda DHS 2025

IYCF #	IYCF abbrev.	Table #	Indicator	Indicator definition and denominator	Percentage and number
1	EvBF	11.3	Ever breastfed ¹	Percentage of children born in the last 2 years who were ever breastfed Number of children born in the last 2 years	98.2 2,939
2	EIBF	11.3	Early initiation of breastfeeding ¹	Percentage of children born in the last 2 years who were put to the breast within 1 hour of birth Number of children born in the last 2 years	79.2 2,939
3	EBF2D	11.3	Exclusively breastfed for the first 2 days after birth ¹	Percentage of children born in the last 2 years who were fed exclusively with breast milk for the first 2 days after birth Number of children born in the last 2 years	93.8 2,939
4	EBF	11.4	Exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months	Percentage of children age 0–5 months who were fed exclusively with breast milk during the previous day Number of youngest children age 0–5 months living with their mother	81.8 709
5	MixMF	11.4	Mixed milk feeding under 6 months	Percentage of children age 0–5 months who were fed both breast milk and formula and/or animal milk during the previous day Number of youngest children age 0–5 months living with their mother	4.7 709
6	CBF	11.4	Continued breastfeeding 12–23 months	Percentage of children age 12–23 months who were fed breast milk during the previous day Number of children age 12–23 months	89.8 1,404
7	ISSSF	-	Introduction of solid, semisolid, or soft foods 6–8 months	Percentage of children age 6–8 months who were fed solid, semisolid, or soft foods during the previous day Number of youngest children age 6–8 months living with their mother	89.1 353
8	MDD	11.8	Minimum dietary diversity 6–23 months	Percentage of children age 6–23 months who were fed foods and beverages from at least 5 out of 8 defined food groups during the previous day Number of youngest children age 6–23 months living with their mother	43.5 2,066
9	MMF	11.8	Minimum meal frequency 6–23 months	Percentage of children age 6–23 months who were fed solid, semisolid, or soft foods (but also including milk feeds for nonbreastfed children) the minimum number of times or more during the previous day Number of youngest children age 6–23 months living with their mother	48.4 2,066
10	MMFF	11.8	Minimum milk feeding frequency for non-breastfed children 6–23 months	Percentage of nonbreastfed children age 6–23 months who were given at least two milk feeds during the previous day Number of youngest children age 6–23 months living with their mother who were not breastfed	23.5 105
11	MAD	11.8	Minimum acceptable diet 6–23 months	Percentage of children age 6–23 months who were fed a minimum acceptable diet during the previous day Number of youngest children age 6–23 months living with their mother	26.9 2,066
12	EFF	11.9	Egg and/or flesh food consumption 6–23 months	Percentage of children age 6–23 months who were fed eggs and/or flesh food during the previous day Number of youngest children age 6–23 months living with their mother	34.7 2,066
13	SWB	11.9	Sweet beverage consumption 6–23 months	Percentage of children age 6–23 months who were given a sweet beverage during the previous day Number of youngest children age 6–23 months living with their mother	33.9 2,066
14	UFC	11.9	Unhealthy food consumption 6–23 months	Percentage of children age 6–23 months who were fed selected sentinel unhealthy foods during the previous day Number of youngest children age 6–23 months living with their mother	25.5 2,066
15	ZVF	11.9	Zero vegetable or fruit consumption 6–23 months	Percentage of children age 6–23 months who were not fed any vegetables or fruits during the previous day Number of youngest children age 6–23 months living with their mother	15.4 2,066
16	BoF	11.4	Bottle feeding 0–23 months	Percentage of children age 0–23 months who were fed from a bottle with a nipple during the previous day Number of children age 0–23 months	9.1 2,857
17		11.5	Infant feeding area graph	Percent distribution of youngest children age 0–5 months living with their mother by feeding category Number of youngest children age 0–5 months living with their mother	

¹ Includes children born in the 2 years preceding the survey regardless of whether the children were living or dead at the time of the interview

Table 11.11 Infant and young child feeding counselling

Among women aged 15–49 years whose youngest child aged 6–23 months is living with them, percentage who talked with a health care provider or community health worker about how or what to feed their child in the last 6 months and percentage who attended monthly growth monitoring and nutrition sessions conducted by community workers during the past month, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Counselled in last 6 months about how or what to feed their child	Attended monthly growth monitoring and nutrition sessions conducted by community health workers during the past month	Number of women whose youngest child aged 6–23 months is living with them
Child's age in months			
6–11	28.8	29.9	726
12–23	39.8	39.9	1,340
Child's sex			
Male	36.6	36.6	1,076
Female	35.2	36.2	991
Age			
15–19	27.5	24.2	74
20–29	34.9	32.5	923
30–39	36.9	39.9	816
40–49	39.1	42.8	253
Residence			
Urban	26.1	18.9	618
Rural	40.1	43.8	1,449
Province			
City of Kigali	16.9	9.8	293
Southern Province	34.9	43.9	435
Western Province	46.2	43.3	419
Northern Province	46.1	49.5	308
Eastern Province	33.7	32.4	612
Education			
No education	36.6	45.0	102
Primary	36.4	40.1	1,270
Secondary	35.5	30.0	612
More than secondary	32.2	15.8	82
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	35.8	39.2	513
Second	37.8	44.7	424
Middle	41.1	40.7	381
Fourth	33.0	33.6	402
Highest	31.6	20.5	347
Total	35.9	36.4	2,066



Table 11.12 Reasons for not attending child growth monitoring and nutrition promotion sessions

Among women aged 15–49 years with a child aged 6–23 months who lives with them who did not participate in monthly growth monitoring and nutrition promotion session in the past month, percentage distribution by reason for not attending, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Not aware about these sessions	Do not have time to attend	Do not find it relevant to attend	Site is too far for me to attend	No means to contribute to the cooking demonstration	My child was sick	Family emergency	Other	Number of women with a child aged 6–23 months who lives with them who did not attend monthly growth monitoring session
Child's age in months									
6–11	73.6	13.8	1.1	0.9	0.7	1.4	0.5	8.1	509
12–23	71.7	12.8	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.8	8.9	805
Child's sex									
Male	69.2	14.8	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.6	1.7	9.4	682
Female	75.9	11.5	1.2	1.1	0.7	1.2	0.9	7.6	632
Age									
15–19	77.2	12.3	0.0	0.0	2.3	4.0	2.2	1.9	56
20–29	75.6	10.0	1.1	1.5	0.4	0.5	1.1	10.0	623
30–39	69.3	16.3	1.4	0.9	1.4	1.7	1.6	7.5	491
40–49	67.7	16.9	1.2	0.0	1.5	3.4	0.7	8.5	145
Residence									
Urban	77.2	14.7	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.3	5.6	501
Rural	69.5	12.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.8	1.9	10.4	814
Province									
City of Kigali	85.0	12.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	264
Southern Province	77.3	9.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.6	1.7	9.8	244
Western Province	69.0	14.1	2.8	0.5	1.8	1.3	1.0	9.6	237
Northern Province	71.4	15.2	0.7	2.0	1.3	0.7	1.5	7.2	156
Eastern Province	63.9	14.9	1.8	2.2	1.5	2.5	1.9	11.3	414
Education									
No education	65.9	19.0	1.4	1.8	2.0	5.6	0.0	4.4	56
Primary	72.0	11.2	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.6	9.6	761
Secondary	75.3	13.2	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.9	0.9	8.3	428
More than secondary	64.5	30.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	2.4	69
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	70.2	14.9	1.2	1.4	1.1	2.2	1.9	7.0	312
Second	68.2	11.2	1.8	2.4	2.0	1.7	1.1	11.5	234
Middle	72.3	8.1	2.2	0.5	0.5	2.0	2.4	12.0	226
Fourth	76.0	13.4	0.0	0.4	1.2	0.0	0.8	8.2	267
Highest	75.2	16.9	0.8	0.4	0.0	1.0	0.3	5.3	275
Total	72.4	13.2	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.4	1.3	8.6	1,315

Table 11.13 Micronutrient supplementation and deworming among children

Among children aged 6–59 months, percentages who were given iron tablets or syrups, micronutrient powders, and iron-containing supplements in the last 12 months and percentage who were given vitamin A supplements in the last 6 months, and among children aged 12–59 months, percentage who were given deworming medication in the last 6 months, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Among children aged 6–59 months:					Among children aged 12–59 months:	
	Percentage given iron tablets or syrup in last 12 months ¹	Percentage given multiple micronutrient powders in last 12 months ¹	Percentage given iron-containing supplements in last 12 months ^{1,2}	Percentage given vitamin A supplements in last 6 months ³	Number of children	Percentage given deworming medication in last 6 months ^{1,4}	Number of children
Age in months							
6–8	12.7	12.5	20.6	49.2	357	na	na
9–11	15.7	24.9	31.7	66.6	378	na	na
12–17	26.7	33.4	44.2	76.3	743	58.0	743
18–23	31.6	42.5	51.6	81.2	661	77.8	661
24–35	32.5	40.3	50.7	79.1	1,377	85.2	1,377
36–47	34.2	27.6	43.5	74.5	1,491	83.5	1,491
48–59	32.0	22.7	39.3	74.0	1,331	84.2	1,331
6–23	23.9	31.2	40.3	71.6	2,139	67.3	1,404
24–59	32.9	30.2	44.5	75.8	4,199	84.3	4,199
Sex							
Male	29.2	30.8	42.7	73.4	3,191	79.7	2,796
Female	30.6	30.3	43.5	75.4	3,147	80.3	2,807
Breastfeeding status ⁵							
Breastfeeding	25.0	33.3	42.3	73.3	2,345	70.5	1,615
Not breastfeeding	31.7	37.6	48.5	76.9	1,171	84.1	1,165
Mother's age							
15–19	25.7	27.6	36.6	56.9	107	59.2	66
20–29	27.8	29.8	41.5	71.4	2,508	76.7	2,173
30–39	31.0	31.3	44.3	76.0	2,687	82.3	2,404
40–49	32.8	30.7	44.6	79.3	1,036	83.4	960
Residence							
Urban	30.7	23.7	38.7	70.4	1,950	78.2	1,712
Rural	29.5	33.6	45.1	76.2	4,388	80.8	3,891
Province							
City of Kigali	28.1	23.4	37.1	70.2	926	77.5	806
Southern Province	36.5	36.7	53.4	76.7	1,346	83.1	1,186
Western Province	25.4	28.9	41.0	77.3	1,370	84.4	1,221
Northern Province	30.7	31.5	41.0	73.3	906	83.0	804
Eastern Province	28.9	30.4	41.1	73.2	1,791	74.0	1,585
Mother's education							
No education	31.7	32.4	43.8	78.1	401	76.7	375
Primary	30.0	32.2	44.3	75.1	3,882	79.8	3,441
Secondary	29.9	28.7	41.9	73.2	1,758	82.0	1,531
More than secondary	26.4	17.1	33.3	66.7	298	76.5	256
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	26.5	33.5	43.2	72.9	1,433	77.0	1,264
Second	31.2	33.8	46.0	75.3	1,249	79.4	1,099
Middle	30.4	33.9	45.3	78.2	1,231	82.6	1,095
Fourth	30.3	28.0	41.2	75.1	1,219	81.2	1,070
Highest	31.6	22.9	39.6	70.6	1,205	80.4	1,075
Total	29.9	30.6	43.1	74.4	6,338	80.0	5,603

na = Not applicable

¹ Based on mother's recall

² Iron-containing supplements include tablets, syrup, and micronutrient powders.

³ Based on both mother's recall and the vaccination card (where available)

⁴ Deworming for intestinal parasites is commonly done for helminths and schistosomiasis.

⁵ Information available for children age 0–35 months only



Table 11.14.1 Nutritional status of women aged 20–49 years

Among women aged 20–49 years, percentage with height below 145 cm, mean body mass index (BMI), and percentage with specific BMI levels, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Short stature		Mean body mass index (BMI)	Body mass index ¹							Number of women
	Height below 145 cm	Number of women		18.5–24.9 (total normal)	<18.5 (total thin)	17.0–18.4 (mildly thin)	<17 (moderately or severely thin)	≥25.0 (total over-weight or obese)	25.0–29.9 (over-weight)	≥30.0 (obese)	
Age											
20–29	2.3	2,248	23.7	68.4	3.2	2.8	0.4	28.4	21.8	6.6	2,044
30–39	2.3	1,896	24.8	56.9	3.9	3.4	0.5	39.2	26.6	12.6	1,712
40–49	2.0	1,514	24.6	56.2	5.0	3.3	1.7	38.8	24.6	14.2	1,482
Residence											
Urban	1.6	1,844	25.8	47.1	3.4	2.8	0.7	49.5	30.0	19.5	1,714
Rural	2.5	3,815	23.6	68.0	4.2	3.3	0.9	27.8	21.3	6.5	3,523
Province											
City of Kigali	1.7	923	26.0	45.7	3.2	2.6	0.6	51.1	29.6	21.5	860
Southern Province	2.8	1,228	23.3	66.9	7.3	5.5	1.9	25.8	19.6	6.1	1,142
Western Province	2.4	1,181	24.2	62.5	3.0	2.5	0.5	34.5	26.6	7.9	1,076
Northern Province	1.3	836	23.9	67.7	2.4	2.3	0.1	29.9	22.4	7.5	779
Eastern Province	2.5	1,491	24.4	61.3	3.3	2.6	0.7	35.4	23.6	11.8	1,381
Education											
No education	2.9	448	23.4	66.1	5.2	3.8	1.4	28.6	22.9	5.8	429
Primary	2.7	3,290	24.0	64.3	4.1	3.2	0.9	31.6	22.3	9.3	3,051
Secondary	1.7	1,598	24.8	56.7	3.4	3.0	0.4	39.9	26.9	13.0	1,449
More than secondary	0.0	322	26.1	44.2	3.6	2.4	1.1	52.2	30.7	21.5	308
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	4.5	1,058	22.4	77.8	6.6	4.5	2.1	15.7	13.5	2.1	967
Second	2.6	1,048	22.9	75.6	4.2	3.4	0.7	20.2	16.9	3.3	966
Middle	1.4	1,102	23.9	65.5	3.1	2.5	0.5	31.4	23.9	7.5	1,020
Fourth	1.8	1,140	25.0	53.5	3.8	3.3	0.5	42.7	31.1	11.6	1,051
Highest	1.2	1,310	26.6	39.7	2.6	2.2	0.4	57.7	32.5	25.2	1,233
Total 20–49	2.2	5,659	24.3	61.2	4.0	3.1	0.8	34.9	24.1	10.7	5,237

Note: Body mass index (BMI) is expressed as the ratio of weight in kilograms to the square of height in metres (kg/m²) for adults aged 20–49 years.

¹Excludes pregnant women and women with a birth in the preceding 2 months

Table 11.14.2 Nutritional status of adolescent women aged 15–19 years

Among women aged 15–19 years, percentage with height-for-age below –2 standard deviations (SD), mean body mass index (BMI)-for-age z score, and percentage with specific BMI-for-age levels, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Short stature		Body mass index-for-age ¹								Number of women
	Height-for-age below –2 SD	Number of women	Mean BMI-for-age z score	–1 SD to +1 SD (total normal)	<–1 SD (total thin) ²	<–1 SD to –2 SD (mildly thin)	<–2 SD (moderately or severely thin)	>+1 SD (total overweight or obese) ³	>+1 SD to +2 SD (over-weight)	>+2 SD (obese)	
Residence											
Urban	9.1	452	0.5	67.9	6.1	5.7	0.4	26.0	21.7	4.3	445
Rural	11.6	1,025	0.3	73.7	7.4	6.9	0.4	18.9	17.4	1.5	993
Province											
City of Kigali	9.2	206	0.4	72.0	5.3	4.3	1.0	22.7	18.7	4.0	201
Southern Province	9.4	331	0.2	75.3	8.6	8.3	0.3	16.1	14.2	1.8	322
Western Province	15.1	276	0.3	75.5	6.7	6.3	0.4	17.8	16.8	1.0	270
Northern Province	11.0	203	0.5	67.6	2.8	2.3	0.5	29.6	26.4	3.3	202
Eastern Province	10.0	461	0.3	69.1	8.6	8.3	0.3	22.3	19.7	2.5	444
Education											
No education	*	13	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	13
Primary	13.0	685	0.3	70.2	9.0	8.4	0.6	20.8	18.0	2.8	659
Secondary	8.5	776	0.4	73.3	5.1	5.0	0.2	21.6	19.5	2.1	764
More than secondary	*	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	16.4	235	0.2	74.6	9.7	9.2	0.5	15.8	14.2	1.6	226
Second	15.9	297	0.2	76.0	7.1	6.3	0.8	16.9	15.9	1.1	286
Middle	10.0	280	0.2	74.4	8.1	7.8	0.4	17.5	15.8	1.7	272
Fourth	6.7	315	0.4	69.0	5.2	4.6	0.6	25.8	21.8	4.0	306
Highest	7.2	351	0.5	67.4	5.8	5.8	0.0	26.7	23.7	3.0	349
Total 15–19	10.8	1,477	0.3	71.9	7.0	6.5	0.4	21.1	18.7	2.4	1,439

Note: Height-for-age and body mass index (BMI)-for-age are expressed in standard deviation units (SD) from the median of the WHO Growth Reference for adolescent women aged 15–19 years. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Excludes pregnant women and women with a birth in the preceding 2 months

² Includes adolescent women aged 15–19 years who are below –2 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Growth Reference population median

³ Includes adolescent women aged 15–19 years who are above +2 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Growth Reference population median

Table 11.14.3 Nutritional status of men aged 20–49 years

Among men aged 20–49 years, mean body mass index (BMI) and percentage with specific BMI levels, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Body mass index								Number of men
	Mean body mass index (BMI)	18.5–24.9 (total normal)	<18.5 (total thin)	17.0–18.4 (mildly thin)	<17 (moderately or severely thin)	≥25.0 (total overweight or obese)	25.0–29.9 (over-weight)	≥30.0 (obese)	
Age									
20–29	21.7	89.1	4.8	4.4	0.4	6.1	5.6	0.5	1,759
30–39	22.2	79.3	6.6	6.0	0.6	14.1	12.4	1.7	1,525
40–49	22.1	73.1	10.0	8.0	2.0	16.9	13.9	3.0	1,224
Residence									
Urban	22.6	73.2	6.6	5.4	1.3	20.2	17.4	2.8	1,529
Rural	21.6	85.7	6.9	6.2	0.7	7.4	6.5	0.9	2,978
Province									
City of Kigali	22.5	72.5	7.5	6.4	1.1	19.9	17.9	2.0	838
Southern Province	21.4	81.7	10.2	8.7	1.5	8.1	6.8	1.3	963
Western Province	22.2	84.0	4.2	3.7	0.5	11.8	9.7	2.1	833
Northern Province	22.3	87.6	3.0	2.6	0.4	9.4	7.5	1.9	676
Eastern Province	21.7	82.2	7.7	6.8	0.9	10.1	9.2	0.9	1,197
Education									
No education	21.2	85.2	9.9	6.8	3.1	4.8	4.5	0.3	318
Primary	21.8	82.9	7.1	6.3	0.8	10.0	8.6	1.4	2,693
Secondary	22.0	82.6	6.2	5.5	0.7	11.2	10.2	1.0	1,179
More than secondary	23.9	61.1	3.5	2.9	0.6	35.3	29.0	6.3	317
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	21.0	88.7	8.9	7.7	1.2	2.5	2.2	0.3	771
Second	21.2	89.4	7.6	6.6	1.0	3.0	2.9	0.1	779
Middle	21.6	85.4	7.7	7.4	0.3	6.9	6.4	0.5	870
Fourth	22.2	82.5	5.7	4.6	1.1	11.8	10.5	1.3	972
Highest	23.2	66.9	5.2	4.1	1.1	27.9	23.5	4.5	1,115
Total 20–49	22.0	81.4	6.8	5.9	0.9	11.7	10.2	1.6	4,508
50–59	21.6	66.5	18.3	14.9	3.4	15.2	12.1	3.1	653
Total 20–59	21.9	79.6	8.3	7.0	1.2	12.2	10.4	1.8	5,160

Note: Body mass index (BMI) is expressed as the ratio of weight in kilograms to the square of height in metres (kg/m²) for adults aged 20–59 years.



Table 11.14.4 Nutritional status of adolescent men aged 15–19 years

Among men aged 15–19 years, mean body mass index (BMI)-for-age z score and percentage with specific BMI-for-age levels, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Body mass index-for-age								Number of men
	Mean BMI-for-age z score	-1 SD to +1 SD (total normal)	<-1 SD (total thin) ¹	<-1 SD to -2 SD (mildly thin)	<-2 SD (moderately or severely thin)	>+1 SD (total overweight or obese) ²	>+1 SD to +2 SD (over-weight)	>+2 SD (obese)	
Residence									
Urban	-0.7	58.2	39.3	33.4	5.9	2.5	2.5	0.0	322
Rural	-0.7	64.9	34.0	28.8	5.1	1.1	1.0	0.1	1,011
Province									
City of Kigali	-0.6	55.7	40.6	37.9	2.6	3.7	3.7	0.0	154
Southern Province	-0.9	56.0	44.0	36.9	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	347
Western Province	-0.6	69.1	29.9	24.5	5.5	0.9	0.9	0.0	263
Northern Province	-0.5	72.2	23.9	21.0	2.9	4.0	4.0	0.0	177
Eastern Province	-0.7	64.8	34.1	28.3	5.8	1.1	0.7	0.4	391
Education									
No education	-0.3	(83.4)	(16.6)	(16.6)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	28
Primary	-0.8	60.7	38.5	31.7	6.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	760
Secondary	-0.6	65.9	31.5	28.0	3.5	2.5	2.3	0.3	544
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	-0.8	58.4	41.6	33.4	8.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	229
Second	-0.7	67.7	31.4	25.7	5.7	0.9	0.9	0.0	239
Middle	-0.7	66.9	32.4	27.6	4.8	0.7	0.7	0.0	292
Fourth	-0.6	61.5	36.5	32.3	4.2	2.0	2.0	0.0	301
Highest	-0.6	61.6	34.9	30.5	4.4	3.5	3.0	0.5	270
Total 15–19	-0.7	63.3	35.2	29.9	5.3	1.5	1.4	0.1	1,332

Note: Body mass index (BMI)-for-age is expressed in standard deviation units (SD) from the median of the WHO Growth Reference for adolescent men aged 15–19 years. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed

¹ Includes adolescent men aged 15–19 years who are below -2 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Growth Reference population median

² Includes adolescent men aged 15–19 years who are above +2 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Growth Reference population median

Table 11.15 Foods and liquids consumed by women in the day or night preceding the interview

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years by type of foods and liquids consumed in the day or night preceding the interview, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Grains	White roots, tubers, and plantains	Pulses (beans, peas, lentils)	Nuts and seeds	Dairy products (milk, yogurt, cheese)	Flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, organ meats)	Eggs	Dark green leafy vegetables	Vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables	Other vegetables	Other fruits	Insects and other small protein foods	Red palm oil	Sweet foods ¹	Fried and salty foods ²	Fruit juice or fruit-flavoured drinks	Sodas, malt drinks, sports drinks, or energy drinks	Sweetened tea, coffee, herbal drinks, or other sweet beverages ³	Number of women
Age																			
15–19	67.5	77.5	91.4	6.8	4.7	26.7	7.7	58.6	63.5	35.0	11.4	0.3	4.3	19.8	19.7	8.1	5.4	17.8	2,897
20–29	71.5	75.4	88.5	8.1	4.6	31.0	10.2	60.5	63.1	33.4	11.5	0.4	3.4	15.0	19.7	9.1	7.6	18.0	4,522
30–39	65.9	78.8	88.4	8.1	4.1	29.2	8.3	62.1	58.9	31.9	10.3	0.5	4.0	10.1	14.0	7.4	5.9	15.5	3,790
40–49	52.4	77.6	87.6	8.0	2.9	22.1	5.0	57.7	54.9	31.5	7.3	0.2	4.2	6.3	9.0	5.7	4.1	13.6	3,074
Maternity status																			
Pregnant	66.0	80.3	87.9	8.3	4.9	34.2	11.6	58.1	67.3	29.9	16.3	0.2	4.2	12.1	16.7	9.9	5.5	16.9	731
Not pregnant ⁴	65.1	77.0	88.9	7.8	4.1	27.4	7.9	60.0	59.9	33.1	10.0	0.4	3.9	12.8	15.9	7.6	6.0	16.3	13,552
Residence																			
Urban	80.2	72.4	87.8	7.9	6.4	36.6	12.7	61.6	67.7	37.3	15.6	0.6	1.8	18.5	26.2	11.4	10.4	28.1	4,570
Rural	58.0	79.5	89.4	7.8	3.1	23.6	5.9	59.1	56.8	30.9	7.8	0.2	5.0	10.1	11.1	6.0	3.9	10.8	9,713
Province																			
City of Kigali	82.7	72.5	88.0	8.0	5.1	43.1	14.2	65.1	74.0	43.9	16.6	0.9	1.3	19.6	30.5	14.0	12.0	32.4	2,290
Southern Province	57.8	71.9	90.6	10.6	5.5	33.5	7.4	57.9	58.6	36.5	7.5	0.4	10.1	12.1	16.2	7.1	5.3	16.1	3,087
Western Province	57.8	77.6	84.1	6.7	2.7	23.1	4.8	58.9	50.2	31.0	7.7	0.2	5.8	9.6	10.3	5.5	3.3	9.6	2,949
Northern Province	64.1	82.6	92.6	4.7	3.6	19.3	8.0	65.2	62.4	31.4	12.3	0.1	1.5	14.5	14.0	5.9	6.0	9.7	2,089
Eastern Province	66.6	81.0	89.6	8.1	3.9	22.1	7.5	56.5	60.1	25.8	9.6	0.2	0.5	10.8	12.3	7.2	4.9	15.8	3,868
Education																			
No education	42.1	76.7	82.0	5.7	1.2	13.0	2.9	52.4	46.3	24.0	5.2	0.0	5.2	3.0	6.6	3.8	1.2	6.6	929
Primary	59.4	77.6	88.6	7.9	2.4	24.0	5.0	57.4	55.3	30.0	7.0	0.3	4.6	8.7	10.9	5.1	3.7	10.9	7,938
Secondary	75.7	76.9	91.3	7.9	6.0	33.0	11.9	64.0	68.3	37.5	13.7	0.3	3.0	18.9	22.3	10.1	8.6	23.1	4,765
More than secondary	89.8	75.2	84.7	9.9	16.2	55.6	23.9	72.3	82.4	47.7	32.8	2.2	1.4	33.0	43.1	27.2	20.8	47.2	651
Wealth quintile																			
Lowest	43.5	76.3	82.5	6.5	1.2	17.1	2.0	50.6	46.3	23.0	3.9	0.3	7.2	5.0	5.9	3.8	1.2	3.5	2,642
Second	54.3	80.7	89.1	6.9	1.7	19.9	3.3	56.1	52.2	27.5	5.2	0.0	5.6	7.3	7.3	3.9	2.8	6.0	2,738
Middle	62.0	79.3	91.8	8.0	2.5	22.9	5.6	60.6	58.5	33.3	7.3	0.2	3.7	10.7	10.8	5.6	2.9	9.1	2,746
Fourth	72.4	76.7	91.6	8.7	4.1	29.8	8.9	61.7	64.5	37.5	10.8	0.3	2.0	12.1	17.6	7.6	6.5	19.3	2,885
Highest	87.8	73.6	89.0	8.9	9.9	45.2	18.2	68.6	76.2	41.1	21.7	0.8	1.9	26.1	34.0	16.0	14.6	38.9	3,272
Total	65.1	77.2	88.9	7.8	4.1	27.7	8.1	59.9	60.3	32.9	10.3	0.3	3.9	12.8	15.9	7.7	6.0	16.4	14,283

Note: See the Woman's Questionnaire for the list of liquids and foods.

¹ Sentinel sweet foods such as chocolates, candies, pastries, cakes, biscuits, ice cream, and popsicles

² Sentinel fried and salty foods include foods such as chips, crisps, puffs, French fries, fried dough, and instant noodles

³ Other sweetened beverages include beverages such as sweet/flavoured milk and yogurt drinks, sweet/flavoured soy milks or nut milks, and chocolate-flavoured drinks.

⁴ Includes women who do not know if they are pregnant

Table 11.16 Minimum dietary diversity and unhealthy food and beverage consumption among women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years consuming sweet beverages, percentage consuming sentinel unhealthy foods, and percentage achieving minimum dietary diversity for women, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Minimum dietary diversity for women ¹	Sweet beverage consumption ²	Unhealthy food consumption ³	Number of women
Age				
15–19	32.4	26.0	31.8	2,897
20–29	35.2	26.9	28.3	4,522
30–39	33.3	23.0	20.0	3,790
40–49	25.8	19.6	13.2	3,074
Maternity status				
Pregnant	38.2	25.6	24.4	731
Not pregnant ⁴	31.8	24.0	23.5	13,552
Residence				
Urban	41.6	38.0	35.9	4,570
Rural	27.6	17.6	17.8	9,713
Province				
City of Kigali	48.7	43.2	40.9	2,290
Southern Province	34.5	23.6	22.3	3,087
Western Province	24.5	15.5	16.8	2,949
Northern Province	31.4	17.6	23.3	2,089
Eastern Province	26.6	23.3	19.6	3,868
Education				
No education	14.0	10.4	8.9	929
Primary	26.4	16.8	16.8	7,938
Secondary	40.9	33.3	33.0	4,765
More than secondary	63.1	65.3	57.9	651
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	14.5	7.9	10.0	2,642
Second	20.6	11.0	12.9	2,738
Middle	29.4	15.3	18.6	2,746
Fourth	37.4	28.1	24.6	2,885
Highest	53.5	52.0	46.7	3,272
Total	32.1	24.1	23.6	14,283

¹ Minimum dietary diversity for women is defined as consuming foods from 5 or more of the following 10 food groups: a. grains, roots, tubers, and plantains; b. pulses (beans, peas, lentils); c. nuts and seeds; d. dairy products (milk, cheese, yogurt); e. flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry, organ meats); f. eggs; g. dark green leafy vegetables; h. vitamin A-rich fruits and vegetables; i. other vegetables; j. other fruits

² Sweet beverages include sweet/ flavoured milk and yogurt drinks, sweet/ flavoured soy milks or nut milks, fruit juice and fruit-flavoured drinks, chocolate-flavoured drinks, sodas, malt drinks, sports drinks, energy drinks, sweetened tea, coffee, herbal drinks, and other sweetened liquids.

³ Unhealthy foods are a group of sentinel food types that include sweet foods such as chocolates, candies, pastries, cakes, biscuits, ice cream, and popsicles and fried and salty foods such as chips, crisps, puffs, French fries, fried dough, and instant noodles.

⁴ Includes women who do not know if they are pregnant



Key Findings

- **Adult mortality:** The adult mortality rate is 1.71 deaths per 1,000 population among women and 2.63 deaths per 1,000 population among men.
- **Lifetime risk of maternal death:** The lifetime risk of maternal death indicates that one in 167 women in Rwanda are likely to die from maternal causes.
- **Maternal mortality ratio:** The maternal mortality ratio for the 5-year period preceding the 2025 RDHS is estimated at 149 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births.
- **Pregnancy-related mortality ratio:** The estimated pregnancy-related mortality ratio for the 5-year period preceding the 2025 RDHS is 172 deaths per 100,000 live births.

A adult and maternal mortality indicators are useful for assessing the health status of a population. In many developing countries, reproductive health remains a major concern, highlighting a need for reliable data on maternal deaths.

The problem of maternal mortality can be approached using a delay model that includes delays in deciding to seek life-saving care, delays in reaching a health care facility, and delays in receiving the needed services upon reaching the facility (Thaddeus and Maine 1994). This model incorporates human, health system, and socioeconomic factors such as poverty, inadequate emergency obstetric services, and fatalistic beliefs. These problems have contributed to a high incidence of infectious diseases, postpartum hemorrhage, hypertensive disorders, unsafe abortions, and prolonged labour, which have led to high adult and maternal mortality rates. The SDG target 3.1 aims to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births by 2030.

Estimation of mortality rates requires complete and accurate data on adult and maternal deaths. In the 2025 RDHS, data were collected from all female respondents regarding the survival of their sisters and brothers to obtain an estimate of adult mortality. Questions were included to determine whether any of the sisters' deaths were maternity-related, which permits an estimation of maternal mortality—a key indicator of maternal health and well-being. This chapter presents information on levels of and trends in maternal mortality in Rwanda. It includes a summary measure ($_{35q15}$) that represents the probability of dying between exact ages 15 and 50, that is, between the 15th and 50th birthdays.

12.1 Data

To obtain a sibling history, each respondent was first asked to provide the total number of her mother's live births. The respondent was then asked to provide a list of all children born to her mother, starting with the first born, and the survival status of each sibling. For each surviving sibling, information on current age was collected. For each deceased sibling, age at death and number of years since death were recorded. When a respondent could not provide precise information regarding age at death or years since death, the interviewers were instructed to accept an approximate but quantitative answer. For sisters who died at age 12 or above, three questions were used to determine whether the death was maternity-related: "Was [NAME OF SISTER] pregnant when she died?"



and, if not, “Did she die during childbirth?” and, if not, “Did she die within 2 months after the end of a pregnancy or childbirth?” For sisters who died during pregnancy, childbirth, or the 2 months following childbirth, the respondent was asked to report how many days after the end of the pregnancy or childbirth her sister died. Estimation of adult and pregnancy-related mortality, whether by direct or indirect means, requires reasonably accurate reporting of the respondent’s number of sisters and brothers, the number who have died, and, for pregnancy-related mortality, the number of sisters who died of pregnancy-related causes.

Table 12.1 shows the number of siblings reported by respondents and the completeness of data on current age, age at death, and years since death. A total of 71,900 siblings were recorded in the adult mortality section of the 2025 RDHS. There were only 122 siblings (less than 1%) for whom survival status was not reported. Current age, which is used to estimate exposure to death, was reported for all surviving siblings. Additionally, data on age at death and years since death were obtained for all dead siblings. It is interesting to note that there were no reports of missing data in the adult mortality section. The sex ratio at birth of enumerated siblings (calculated as the ratio of brothers to sisters multiplied by 100) is 102.1 (see Table C.17 in Appendix C).

12.2 Direct Estimates of Adult Mortality

Adult mortality rate

The number of adult deaths per 1,000 population aged 15–49 years. Adult mortality rates by 5-year age groups are calculated as follows: the number of deaths to a respondent’s siblings in each age group is divided by the number of person-years of exposure to the risk of dying in that age group during the 5 years preceding the survey. The number of deaths is the number of siblings (brothers or sisters) reported as having died within the 5 years preceding the survey. The person-years of exposure in each age group are calculated for both surviving and dead siblings based on their current age (living siblings) or age at death and years since death (dead siblings).

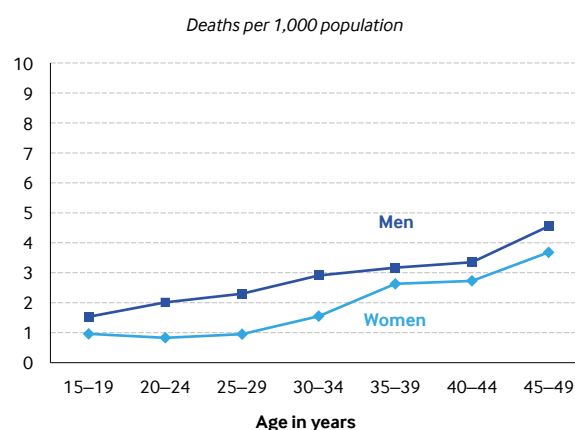
Sample: Siblings (both living and dead) who were aged 15–49 years in the 5 years preceding the survey, by sex and 5-year age groups

One way to assess the quality of the data used to estimate pregnancy-related mortality is to evaluate the plausibility and stability of overall adult mortality. If estimated rates of overall adult mortality are implausible, then rates based on a subset of deaths, such as pregnancy-related deaths in particular, may be of questionable credibility. The reported ages at death and years since death of the respondents’ brothers and sisters are used to make direct estimates of adult mortality. Age- and sex-specific death rates are presented in this report because of the differentials in exposure to the risk of dying. To ensure a sufficiently large number of adult deaths to generate robust estimates, the rates are calculated for the 5-year period preceding the survey (approximately 2020 to 2025). Nevertheless, age-specific mortality rates obtained in this manner are subject to considerable sampling variation. The use of this 5-year period represents a compromise between the desire for the most recent data and the need to minimize sampling error.



Table 12.2 and **Figure 12.1** present direct estimates of age-specific mortality rates among women and men aged 15–49 years during the 5-year period preceding the survey. Overall, the level of adult mortality is higher among men (2.63 deaths per 1,000 population) than among women (1.71 deaths per 1,000 population). Mortality rates per 1,000 population are low among women in the 15–19 (0.96), 20–24 (0.83), and 25–29 (0.95) age groups and then rise steadily from 1.55 per 1,000 population in the 30–34 age group to 3.68 per 1,000 population in the 45–49 age group. Among men, mortality rates increase steadily from 1.53 per 1,000 population in the 15–19 age group to 4.55 per 1,000 in the 45–49 age group. In all age groups, mortality rates are higher among men than among women.

Figure 12.1 Adult mortality rates by age



12.3 Trends in Adult Mortality

This chapter includes a summary measure ($_{35}q_{15}$) that represents the probability of dying between exact ages 15 and 50 if individuals experienced the age-specific mortality rates shown in **Table 12.2**. **Table 12.3** shows the probability of a woman or man age 15 dying by age 50 ($_{35}q_{15}$) during the 5-year period preceding the 2025 RDHS as well as during the 5-year period preceding the 2019–20 RDHS. According to the 2025 RDHS results, 65 out of every 1,000 women and 94 out of every 1,000 men who survive to age 15 are expected to die before reaching age 50.

Adult mortality in Rwanda has decreased over the past 5 years. Specifically, the probability of dying between ages 15 and 50 decreased from 71 per 1,000 for women and 124 per 1,000 for men in the 2019–20 RDHS to 65 per 1,000 and 94 per 1,000, respectively, in the 2025 RDHS. Standard errors and confidence intervals for adult mortality rates can be found in Table B.11 in Appendix B.

12.4 Direct Estimates of Maternal Mortality

Maternal mortality rate

The number of maternal deaths per 1,000 women aged 15–49 years. Maternal mortality rates by 5-year age groups are calculated by dividing the number of maternal deaths to female siblings of respondents in a given age group by the total person-years of exposure of those siblings to the risk of dying in that age group during the 5-year period preceding the survey. The number of deaths refers to the number of sisters reported to have died in the 5 years preceding the survey either during pregnancy or delivery, or within 42 days following the delivery or termination of a pregnancy, according to their age group at the time of death. Deaths resulting from accidents or violence are excluded. The person-years of exposure in each age group are calculated for both surviving and dead sisters based on their reported current age (for living sisters) or age at death and years since death (for dead sisters).

Sample: Sisters (both living and dead) aged 15–49 years during the 5 years preceding the survey, by 5-year age groups

Maternal mortality ratio

The number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, referred to as the maternal mortality ratio, is calculated by dividing the age-standardized maternal mortality rate for women aged 15–49 years in the 5 years preceding the survey by the general fertility rate (GFR) for the same time period.

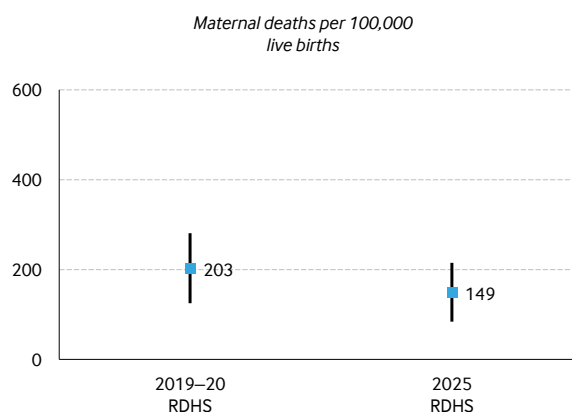
Maternal deaths constitute a subset of all female deaths and are defined as deaths occurring during pregnancy or childbirth or within 42 days after a delivery or pregnancy termination. Maternal deaths do not include deaths resulting from accidents or violence. In developing countries, maternal mortality is generally estimated using two approaches: the indirect sisterhood method (Graham et al. 1989) and a direct variant of the sisterhood method (Rutenberg and Sullivan 1991; Stanton et al. 1997). Tables in this chapter use the direct sisterhood method.

Table 12.4 presents total and age-specific direct estimates of maternal mortality from the reported survivorship of sisters for the 5-year period prior to the 2025 RDHS. Age-specific maternal mortality rates were calculated by dividing the number of maternal deaths in each five-year age group by the corresponding number of woman-years of exposure and then multiplying by 1,000 to express the result per 1,000 woman-years. Due to the small number of maternal deaths in the sample, differences between age groups should be interpreted with caution.

The overall maternal mortality rate for women aged 15–49 years was standardized by the age distribution of survey respondents to remove the effect of truncation bias. Specifically, the total maternal mortality rates were obtained by multiplying the age-specific maternal mortality rates by the proportion of respondents in the 5-year age group and then summing the age distribution-adjusted maternal mortality rates. The maternal mortality rate among women aged 15–49 years is 0.16 deaths per 1,000 woman-years of exposure. Overall, 11% of all female deaths are classified as maternal deaths.

Table 12.5 shows that the estimated maternal mortality ratio is 149 deaths per 100,000 live births during the 5-year period preceding the survey (with a 95% confidence interval of 84 to 215). Consequently, for every 1,000 live births in Rwanda during the 5 years preceding the 2025 RDHS, approximately 1.5 women died during pregnancy, during childbirth, or within 42 days after childbirth, excluding deaths due to accidents or violence. The lifetime risk of maternal death (0.006) indicates that out of 1,000 women of exact age 15, approximately six (1 in 167 women) would suffer a maternal death. **Figure 12.2** shows that the maternal mortality ratio decreased from the 2019–20 RDHS to the 2025 RDHS, from 203 to 149 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, although this difference is not statistically significant.

Figure 12.2 Trends in maternal mortality ratios with confidence intervals



12.5 Trends in Pregnancy-related Mortality

Pregnancy-related mortality rate

The number of pregnancy-related deaths per 1,000 women aged 15–49 years. Pregnancy-related mortality rates by 5-year age groups are calculated by dividing the number of pregnancy-related deaths to female siblings of respondents in a given age group by the total person-years of exposure of those siblings to the risk of dying in that age group during the 5 years preceding the survey. The number of deaths refers to the number of sisters reported to have died in the 5 years preceding the survey either during pregnancy or delivery, or within 2 months following the delivery or termination of a pregnancy, according to their age group at the time of death. Deaths resulting from accidents or violence are included. The person-years of exposure in each age group are calculated for both surviving and dead sisters based on their reported current age (for living sisters) or age at death and years since death (for dead sisters).

Sample: Sisters (both living and dead) aged 15–49 years in the 5 years preceding the survey, by 5-year age groups

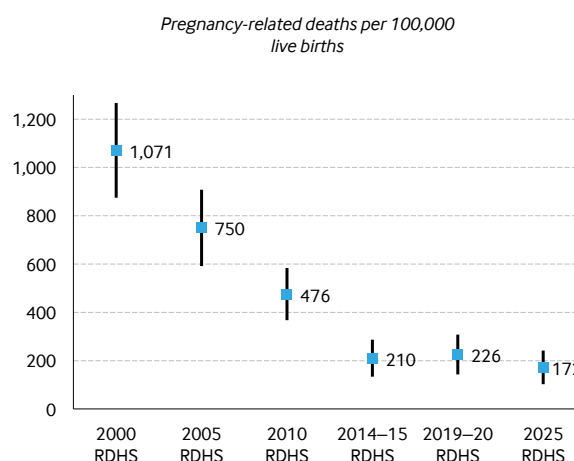
Pregnancy-related mortality ratio

The number of pregnancy-related deaths per 100,000 live births. The pregnancy-related mortality ratio is calculated by dividing the age-standardized pregnancy-related mortality rate for women aged 15–49 years during the 5-year period preceding the survey by the general fertility rate (GFR) for the same time period.

Prior to the 2019–20 RDHS, The DHS Program made changes in the methods and terminology used for maternal mortality to align with the *International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 11th Revision* (WHO 2022). What was referred to as “maternal mortality ratio” (MMR) in the RDHS reports prior to 2019–20 is now called the “pregnancy-related mortality ratio” (PRMR). Maternal mortality, according to the current definition, differs from pregnancy-related mortality in two ways. First, maternal mortality is restricted to deaths occurring within 42 days after childbirth or the termination of a pregnancy, whereas pregnancy-related mortality includes deaths occurring up to 2 months after childbirth or the termination of a pregnancy. Second, maternal mortality excludes deaths due to accidents or violence, while pregnancy-related mortality includes such deaths. Thus, the pregnancy-related mortality ratio is usually higher than the maternal mortality ratio and can never be lower. The questions used to measure maternal mortality according to the current definition were not asked in surveys conducted in Rwanda before the 2019–20 RDHS. Therefore, what this report refers to as the maternal mortality ratio cannot be calculated for surveys prior to the 2019–20 RDHS. When including surveys conducted prior to the 2019–20 RDHS, only trends in the pregnancy-related mortality ratio can be discussed.

The pregnancy-related mortality ratios for the six RDHS surveys are presented in **Figure 12.3**. The pregnancy-related mortality ratio for the 5 years preceding the 2025 RDHS is 172 deaths per 100,000 live births. Pregnancy-related mortality rates and ratios for the 2025 RDHS and the previous RDHS surveys are also presented in Table C.18 in Appendix C.

Figure 12.3 Trends in pregnancy-related mortality ratios with confidence intervals



List of Tables

For more information on adult and maternal mortality, see the following tables:

- **Table 12.1** Completeness of information on siblings
- **Table 12.2** Adult mortality rates
- **Table 12.3** Adult mortality probabilities
- **Table 12.4** Maternal mortality rates
- **Table 12.5** Maternal mortality ratio

Table 12.1 Completeness of information on siblings

Completeness of data on survival status of sisters and brothers reported by interviewed women, age of living siblings, and age at death (AD) and years since death (YSD) of dead siblings (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

	Sisters		Brothers		All siblings	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All siblings	35,570	100.0	36,330	100.0	71,900	100.0
Living	31,171	87.6	30,415	83.7	61,586	85.7
Dead	4,357	12.2	5,835	16.1	10,192	14.2
Survival status unknown	42	0.1	80	0.2	122	0.2
Living siblings	31,171	100.0	30,415	100.0	61,586	100.0
Age reported	31,171	100.0	30,415	100.0	61,586	100.0
Dead siblings	4,357	100.0	5,835	100.0	10,192	100.0
AD and YSD reported	4,357	100.0	5,835	100.0	10,192	100.0

Table 12.2 Adult mortality rates

Direct estimates of female and male mortality rates for the 5 years preceding the survey, by 5-year age groups, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age	Deaths	Exposure years	Mortality rate ¹
FEMALE			
15–19	18	19,162	0.96
20–24	19	22,221	0.83
25–29	20	21,208	0.95
30–34	32	20,398	1.55
35–39	49	18,498	2.63
40–44	36	13,139	2.73
45–49	29	7,826	3.68
Total 15–49	202	122,450	1.71^a
MALE			
15–19	29	18,860	1.53
20–24	43	21,164	2.01
25–29	47	20,599	2.30
30–34	58	19,979	2.91
35–39	58	18,324	3.17
40–44	43	12,835	3.35
45–49	32	7,124	4.55
Total 15–49	310	118,885	2.63^a

¹ Expressed per 1,000 population

^a Age-adjusted rate

Table 12.3 Adult mortality probabilities

The probability of dying between ages 15 and 50 for women and men during the 5 years preceding the survey, Rwanda DHS 2025

Survey	Female 35Q15 ¹	Male 35Q15 ¹
2025 Rwanda DHS	65	94
2019–20 Rwanda DHS	71	124

¹ The probability of dying between exact ages 15 and 50, expressed per 1,000 persons age 15

Table 12.4 Maternal mortality rates

Direct estimates of maternal mortality rates for the 5 years preceding the survey, by 5-year age groups, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age	Percentage of female deaths that are maternal	Maternal deaths ¹	Exposure years	Maternal mortality rate ²
15–19	0.0	0	19,162	0.00
20–24	5.5	1	22,221	0.05
25–29	20.2	4	21,208	0.19
30–34	23.0	7	20,398	0.36
35–39	10.9	5	18,498	0.29
40–44	8.5	3	13,139	0.23
45–49	3.9	1	7,826	0.14
Total 15–49	10.8	22	122,450	0.16^a

Note: The number of maternal deaths according to 5-year age groups may not sum to the total due to rounding.

¹ A maternal death is defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, from any cause except accidents or violence.

² Expressed per 1,000 woman-years of exposure

^a Age-adjusted rate

Table 12.5 Maternal mortality ratio

Total fertility rate, general fertility rate, maternal mortality ratio, and lifetime risk of maternal death for the 5 years preceding the survey, Rwanda DHS 2025

Total fertility rate (TFR)	3.7
General fertility rate (GFR) ¹	109
Maternal mortality ratio (MMR) ²	149 (CI: 84, 215)
Lifetime risk of maternal death ³	0.006

CI: Confidence interval

¹ Age-adjusted rate, expressed per 1,000 women aged 15–49 years

² Expressed per 100,000 live births; calculated as the age-adjusted maternal mortality rate (shown in Table 12.3) times 100 divided by the age-adjusted general fertility rate

³ Calculated as $1 - (1 - \text{MMR})^{\text{TFR}}$, where TFR represents the total fertility rate for the 5 years preceding the survey

KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND BEHAVIOUR RELATED TO HIV AND AIDS

Key Findings

- **Knowledge about mother-to-child transmission of HIV:** 93% of women and 87% of men aged 15–49 years know that the risk of mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs.
- **Discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV:** 13% of women and 11% of men aged 15–49 years who have heard of HIV or AIDS expressed discriminatory attitudes toward people living with HIV.
- **Multiple sexual partners:** 11% of women had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them, and 45% of these women reported using a condom during their last sexual intercourse with such a partner. Among men, 15% had intercourse in the past year with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them and 69% used a condom during their last sexual intercourse with such a partner.
- **HIV testing:** 77% of women and 71% of men have ever been tested for HIV and received the results.
- **Knowledge and coverage of self-testing for HIV:** 45% of women and 55% of men have ever heard of HIV self-test kits, while 6% of both women and men have ever used an HIV self-test kit.
- **Self-reported prevalence of STIs:** 21% of women and 8% of men who have ever had sexual intercourse reported having had a sexually transmitted infection (STI) and/or STI symptoms in the 12 months preceding the survey.
- **Knowledge about HIV prevention among young people:** 57% of young women and 53% of young men aged 15–24 years are knowledgeable about HIV prevention.

This chapter presents information on the current status of HIV knowledge, attitudes, and testing coverage in the general population and among the young population. Rwanda has achieved remarkable success and is a continental leader in controlling HIV and AIDS, maintaining a stable adult prevalence of approximately 3% among individuals aged 15–49 years and exceeding UNAIDS 95–95–95 targets. Ninety-six percent of people living with HIV know their status, 98% are on treatment, and 98% are virally suppressed according to 2024 UNAIDS estimates. Key efforts include strong education, widespread testing, and high coverage of prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT). HIV/AIDS was prioritized in several policy instruments, including Vision 2020 and the Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2013–2018 (EDPRS II). The Second National Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS (National Strategic Plan 2013–2018) was a reference document for all sectors, institutions, and partners involved in the fight against HIV and AIDS (RBC 2014). The National Strategic Plan goals include:

- Lowering the new infection rate by two-thirds from an estimated 6,000 per year currently to 2,000
- Halving the number of HIV-related deaths from 5,000 to 2,500 per year
- Ensuring that people living with HIV have the same opportunities as all others.

Currently, HIV/AIDS is considered a cross-cutting development issue as it continues to pose a significant public health challenge and requires multisectoral collaboration for effective prevention and control. Sustained progress in combating HIV depends on comprehensive policies that engage multiple stakeholders, reduce stigma and discrimination, improve the socioeconomic well-being of people affected by HIV, and address inequalities and gender-related barriers.

13.1 Knowledge and Attitudes about Medicines to Treat or Prevent HIV

Antiretroviral medicines (ARVs) are a powerful tool in the fight against HIV. ARVs are taken by people living with HIV to keep them healthy by preventing the virus from progressing to AIDS. By taking ARVs, individuals living with HIV also greatly reduce the risk of passing the virus to their sexual partners. Women living with HIV who take ARVs during pregnancy and breastfeeding reduce the chances of transmitting the virus to their children. In addition, people who are HIV negative can take ARVs to reduce their risk of acquiring HIV. This is called preexposure prophylaxis, or PrEP. Knowledge about and positive attitudes toward these treatment and prevention measures help to promote their use.

Nearly all women and men aged 15–49 years have heard of ARVs for treating HIV (96% and 95%, respectively). More women (93%) than men (87%) know that the risk of mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV can be reduced by the mother taking specific drugs (**Table 13.1**).

Half of women and men (50% each) know about PrEP as a means through which HIV can be prevented (**Table 13.1** and **Figure 13.1**).

Trends: The percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who know that the risk of MTCT of HIV can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs has not changed significantly since 2010 (**Figure 13.2**).

Figure 13.1 Knowledge of medicines to treat HIV or prevent HIV transmission

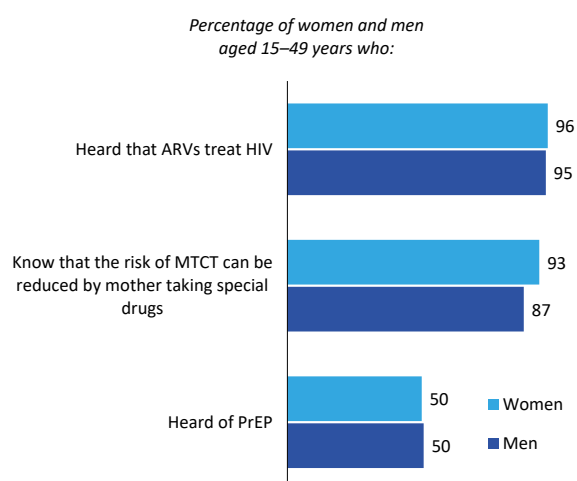
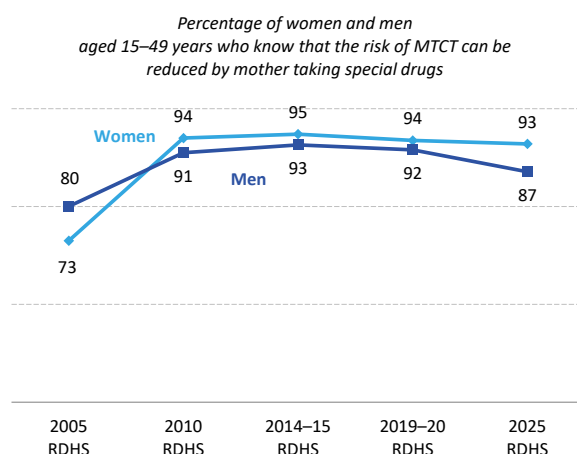


Figure 13.2 Trends in knowledge of mother-to-child transmission (MTCT)



13.2 Discriminatory Attitudes towards People Living with HIV

Widespread stigma and discrimination within a population can adversely affect both people's willingness to be tested and their adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART). Thus, reduction of stigma and discrimination in a population is an important indicator of the success of programmes targeting HIV prevention and control.

Discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV

Women and men were asked two questions to assess discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV. Respondents with discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV are those who say that they would not buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor if they knew that person had HIV or those who say that children living with HIV should not be allowed to attend school with children who do not have HIV.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

Thirteen percent of women and 11% of men expressed discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV (**Table 13.2**).

13.3 Multiple Sexual Partners

Among women aged 15–49 years, 2% had two or more sexual partners in the 12 months preceding the survey, and 11% had intercourse with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them in the 12 months preceding the survey (**Table 13.3.1**). Among women who had two or more sexual partners in the 12 months before the survey, 42% reported using a condom during their last sexual intercourse. Among women who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them, 45% used a condom during the last sexual intercourse with such a partner.

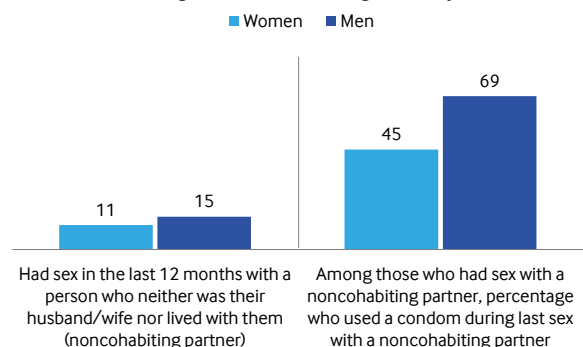
Among men aged 15–49 years, 6% had two or more sexual partners in the 12 months preceding the survey, and 15% had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them (**Table 13.3.2**). Among men with two or more sexual partners, 30% reporting using a condom during the last sexual intercourse. Among men who had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them, 69% reported using a condom during the last sexual intercourse with such a partner (**Figure 13.3**).

Among women and men who have ever had sexual intercourse, the mean number of lifetime sexual partners is 2.1 and 3.3, respectively (**Table 13.3.1** and **Table 13.3.2**).

Among men aged 15–49 years, 97% know where to get a male condom, and 90% are able to get a male condom if they want one (**Table 13.3.3**).

Figure 13.3 Sex and condom use with noncohabiting partners

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years



13.4 Coverage of HIV Testing Services

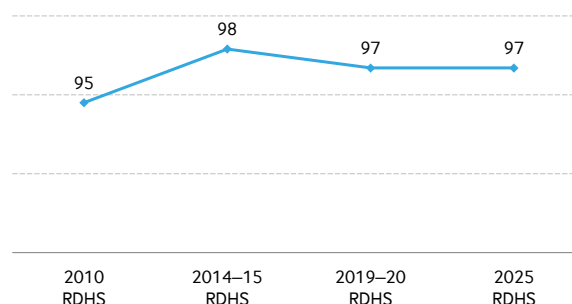
HIV testing programmes diagnose people living with HIV so that they can be linked to care and access antiretroviral therapy (ART). Knowledge of HIV status helps HIV-negative individuals reduce their risk of infection and remain negative.

13.4.1 HIV Testing of Pregnant Women

Among women who gave birth in the 2 years preceding the survey, 94% had an HIV test during antenatal care (ANC) and received the test results (**Table 13.4**). Almost all (97%) women were tested for HIV and received results during either ANC or labour. **Figure 13.4** shows trends over the past 15 years.

Figure 13.4 Trends in HIV testing during pregnancy

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who gave birth in the 2 years before the survey who were tested during ANC or labour and received the results



13.4.2 Experience with Prior HIV Testing

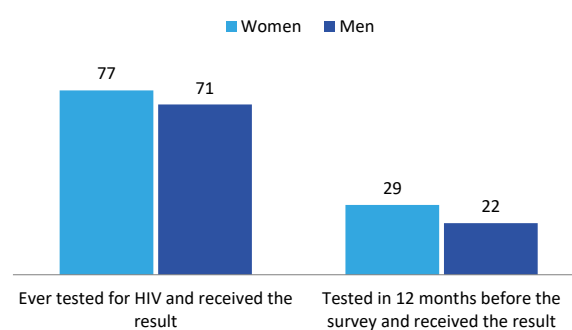
Seventy-seven percent of women and 71% of men aged 15–49 years have ever been tested for HIV and received results. In the 12 months preceding the survey, 29% of women and 22% of men were tested for HIV and received the results of their last test (**Table 13.5.1**, **Table 13.5.2**, and **Figure 13.5**).

Eight percent of women and 12% of men have been tested for HIV only once in their lifetime (**Table 13.6**). On the other hand, 33% of women and 26% of men have been tested for HIV five or more times.

Among the provinces, the percentage of women aged 15–49 years who have been tested for HIV and received the results ranges from a high of 82% in the City of Kigali to a low of 74% in the Western Province (**Map 13.1**).

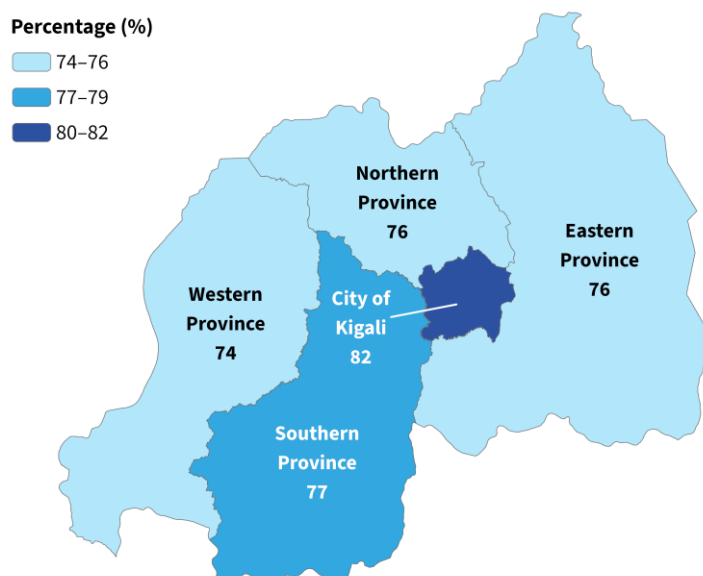
Figure 13.5 HIV testing

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years



Map 13.1 HIV testing among women by province

Percentage of women aged 15–49 who have ever been tested for HIV and received the result



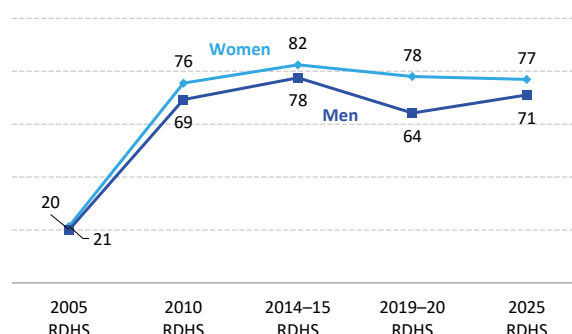
Trends: The percentage of women who have ever been tested for HIV and received their results increased from 21% in 2005 to 82% in 2014–2015 and then dropped to 78% in 2019–20 and 77% in 2025. Similarly, the percentage among men increased from 20% in 2005 to 78% in 2014–15, declined to 64% in 2019–20, and subsequently increased to 71% in 2025 (**Figure 13.6**).

Knowledge and Coverage of Self-testing

Forty-five percent of women and 55% of men have ever heard of HIV self-test kits. However, only 6% each of women and men have used an HIV self-test kit (**Table 13.7**).

Figure 13.6 Trends in HIV testing

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever been tested for HIV and received the results



13.5 Disclosure, Shame, and Stigma among People Living with HIV

Internalized and experienced stigma adversely affect the physical and mental health and well-being of people living with HIV and serve as structural drivers of the HIV epidemic. In the 2025 Rwanda DHS, respondents who had ever been tested for HIV were asked to report the result of their most recent test. Those who reported a positive test result were asked a series of questions about their experiences living with HIV, including a question on internalized stigma and several questions on experiences of stigma in community and health care settings. An indicator reflecting experience of stigma in a community setting was calculated from the three questions included on this topic.

All of these indicators are based on the population of people who were aware that they had HIV and who chose to disclose their positive HIV status during the interview. It is important to note that this group may exclude some respondents who know they have HIV; therefore, results should be interpreted with caution.

Stigma and discrimination experienced in community settings in the 12 months preceding the survey, among people living with HIV

Women and men living with HIV who agreed that they experienced one or more of the following in the last 12 months due to their HIV status: (1) people talked badly about them, (2) someone else disclosed their HIV status without their permission, or (3) they were verbally insulted, harassed, or threatened because of their HIV status.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years who reported being HIV positive

Overall, a total of 257 women and 49 men aged 15–49 years reported being HIV positive. Among those who reported being HIV positive, 60% of women and 44% of men experienced stigma and discrimination in community settings in the 12 months preceding the survey. **Table 13.8.1** and **Table 13.8.2** provide additional information on stigma and discrimination experienced by HIV status.



13.6 Male Circumcision

Traditional circumcision

A cut, partial removal, or complete removal of the foreskin by a traditional practitioner, family member, or friend for religious, health, or cultural reasons. Can be performed at any age.

Medical circumcision

Complete removal of the foreskin by a health care worker. Can be performed at any age.

Sample: Men aged 15–49 years

All men were asked whether they had been circumcised. Those who reported being circumcised were asked whether they had been traditionally circumcised and whether they had been medically circumcised, as well as the age at which each procedure took place. In some settings, traditional circumcision may leave sufficient foreskin intact that it is possible to perform a medical circumcision afterward, thus making it possible for a man to undergo both traditional and medical circumcision.

Among men aged 15–49, 72% are traditionally or medically circumcised, with 2% traditionally circumcised only, 70% medically circumcised only, and less than 1% both traditionally and medically circumcised (**Table 13.9**).

13.7 Self-reporting of Sexually Transmitted Infections

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and symptoms

Respondents who have ever had sex were asked whether they had an STI or symptoms of an STI (a bad-smelling, abnormal discharge from the vagina/penis or a genital sore or ulcer) in the 12 months preceding the survey.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever had sex

Among respondents who have ever had sexual intercourse, 21% of women and 8% of men reported having had a sexually transmitted infection (STI) and/or STI symptoms in the 12 months preceding the survey (**Table 13.10**).

13.8 Prevalence of Medical Injections

Among women aged 15–49 years, 40% received a medical injection in the 12 months preceding the survey, and 99% of these women received their last injection with a syringe and needle taken from a new, unopened package (**Table 13.11**).

13.9 Knowledge and Behaviour Related to HIV and AIDS among Young People

This section addresses HIV-related knowledge among young people aged 15–24 years and assesses the extent to which young people engage in behaviours that may place them at risk of acquiring HIV.



13.9.1 Knowledge about HIV Prevention

Knowledge about HIV prevention

Knowing that consistent use of condoms during sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful partner can reduce the chances of getting HIV, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and rejecting two major misconceptions about HIV transmission: HIV can be transmitted by mosquito bites and a person can become infected by sharing food with a person who has HIV.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–24 years

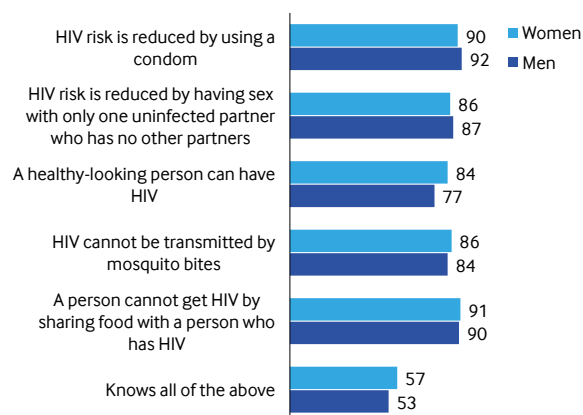
Knowledge of HIV transmission is crucial in enabling people to avoid HIV infection. This is especially true for young people, who are often at greater risk because they may have shorter relationships with more partners or engaging in other risky behaviours.

Only 57% of young women and 53% of young men aged 15–24 years are knowledgeable about HIV prevention. Ninety percent of young women and 92% of young men know that HIV risk is reduced by using a condom (Table 13.12.1, Table 13.12.2, and Figure 13.7).

Sixty-five percent of young women and 58% of young men know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to child during pregnancy, during delivery, and by breast-feeding (Table 13.13).

Figure 13.7 Knowledge about HIV prevention among young people

Percentage of women and men aged 15–24 years with specified knowledge



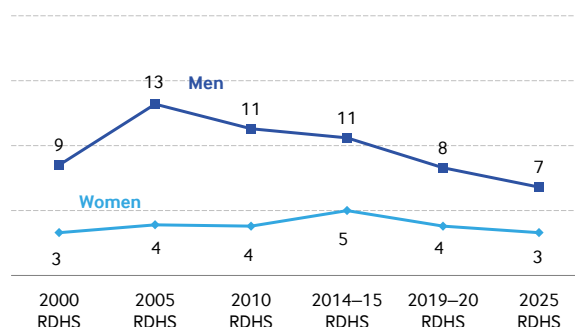
13.9.2 First Sex

Young people who initiate sex at an early age are typically at higher risk of becoming pregnant or contracting an STI than young people who initiate sex later. Consistent condom use can reduce such risks. Only 3% of young women aged 15–24 years reported having sex before age 15, as compared with 7% of young men. Among respondents aged 18–24 years, 21% of women and 22% of men had sex before age 18 (Table 13.14).

Trends: The proportion of women aged 15–24 years who had sexual intercourse before age 15 has remained stable over the past 25 years and varies between 3% and 5%. In contrast, the proportion among young men decreased from 13% in 2005 to 8% in 2019–20 and 7% in 2025 (Figure 13.8).

Figure 13.8 Trends in age at first sex

Percentage of young women and men aged 15–24 years who had sexual intercourse before age 15



13.9.3 Premarital Sex

Among never-married respondents aged 15–24 years, 73% of women and 65% of men have never had sexual intercourse (Table 13.15).

Trends: The proportion of never-married young women who have never had sexual intercourse decreased from 90% in 2000 to 76% in 2019–20 and 73% in 2025. Among never-married young men, the proportion who have never had sexual intercourse follows a similar trend, decreasing from 70% in 2019–20 to 65% in 2025.

13.9.4 Multiple Sexual Partners

Among women aged 15–24 years, 2% had two or more partners in the 12 months preceding the survey, and 13% had sex with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them. Among young women who had sex with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them, 47% used a condom during their last sexual intercourse with such a partner (**Table 13.16.1**).

Among men aged 15–24 years, 4% had two or more partners in the 12 months preceding the survey, and 14% had sex with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them. Among young men who had sex with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them, 74% used a condom during their last sexual intercourse with such a partner (**Table 13.16.2**).

13.9.5 Recent HIV Testing

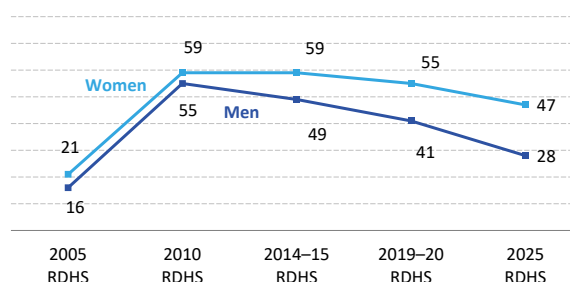
Seeking an HIV test may be more difficult for young people than adults because many young people lack experience in accessing health services for themselves and because there are often barriers to young people obtaining such services. Among respondents aged 15–24 years who had sexual intercourse in the 12 months preceding the survey, 47% of women and 28% of men were tested for HIV and received the results of their last test (**Table 13.17** and **Figure 13.9**).

Trends: Among young women aged 15–24 who had sex in the 12 months preceding the survey, the percentage who were tested for HIV and received the results of the last test increased from 21% in 2005 to 59% in 2010 and 2014–15 before dropping to 55% in 2019–20 and 47% in 2025.

Among young men aged 15–24 who had sex in the 12 months preceding the survey, the percentage who were tested for HIV and received the results of the last test increased from 16% in 2005 to 55% in 2010 and then dropped to 49% in 2014–15, 41% in 2019–20, and 28% in 2025.

Figure 13.9 Recent HIV testing among young people

Among women and men aged 15–24 years who had sex in the past 12 months, percentage who were tested for HIV and received the results of the last test



List of Tables

For more information on knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour related to HIV and AIDS, see the following tables:

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- **Table 13.2** Discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV
- **Table 13.3.1** Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the last 12 months: Women
- **Table 13.3.2** Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the last 12 months: Men
- **Table 13.3.3** Condom knowledge and self-efficacy
- **Table 13.4** Pregnant women tested for HIV
- **Table 13.5.1** Coverage of prior HIV testing: Women
- **Table 13.5.2** Coverage of prior HIV testing: Men
- **Table 13.6** Number of times tested for HIV in lifetime
- **Table 13.7** Knowledge and coverage of self-testing for HIV
- **Table 13.8.1** Disclosure, shame, and stigma experienced by people living with HIV: Women
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- **Table 13.11** Prevalence of medical injections
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- **Table 13.16.1** Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the last 12 months among young people: Women
- **Table 13.16.2** Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the last 12 months among young people: Men
- **Table 13.17** Recent HIV tests among young people



Table 13.1 Knowledge of and attitudes about medicines to treat HIV or prevent HIV transmission

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who have heard of antiretroviral medicines (ARVs) that treat HIV, percentage who know that the risk of mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV can be reduced by the mother taking special drugs, percentage who know that men can reduce their chance of getting HIV by being circumcised, and percentage who have heard of preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP), and among women and men aged 15–49 years who have heard of PrEP, percentage who approve of people who take PrEP to prevent getting HIV, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who have heard of ARVs that treat HIV	Percentage who know that the risk of MTCT can be reduced by mother taking special drugs	Percentage who know that men can reduce their chance of getting HIV by being circumcised	Percentage who have heard of PrEP	Number of respondents	Percentage who approve of people who take PrEP to prevent getting HIV	Number of respondents who have heard of PrEP
WOMEN							
Age							
15–24	92.2	89.3	80.2	44.8	5,386	79.0	2,415
15–19	89.0	86.3	74.3	42.3	2,897	77.8	1,226
20–24	95.9	92.8	87.0	47.8	2,489	80.3	1,189
25–29	98.3	94.2	0.0	48.9	2,032	82.6	994
30–39	98.1	95.3	0.0	53.1	3,790	82.7	2,012
40–49	98.0	95.1	0.0	53.6	3,074	84.2	1,648
Marital status							
Never married	92.5	88.9	61.4	45.3	5,505	78.1	2,493
Ever had sex	96.1	92.4	48.5	52.0	2,058	78.7	1,070
Never had sex	90.4	86.8	69.1	41.3	3,446	77.6	1,423
Married/living together	98.1	95.4	11.3	52.5	7,410	83.2	3,887
Divorced/separated/widowed	97.2	94.6	7.4	50.3	1,369	87.3	688
Residence							
Urban	97.1	93.0	32.1	50.2	4,570	81.2	2,294
Rural	95.3	92.7	29.4	49.1	9,713	82.0	4,773
Education							
No education	94.6	90.4	5.0	49.6	929	81.9	461
Primary	95.1	92.2	23.6	49.7	7,938	84.0	3,943
Secondary	97.0	94.2	48.0	48.2	4,765	78.5	2,299
More than secondary	99.0	94.7	18.1	56.1	651	77.9	365
Total 15–49	95.9	92.8	30.2	49.5	14,283	81.8	7,068
MEN							
Age							
15–24	89.8	83.5	90.8	40.8	2,356	72.9	962
15–19	86.5	79.7	88.1	37.6	1,337	71.9	503
20–24	94.1	88.5	94.4	45.0	1,019	74.0	459
25–29	98.2	88.5	0.0	52.6	754	72.6	396
30–39	99.0	88.3	0.0	59.1	1,545	74.4	913
40–49	98.8	91.4	0.0	55.4	1,236	73.2	685
Marital status							
Never married	91.5	83.3	71.0	43.3	2,772	72.8	1,200
Ever had sex	95.8	86.6	57.7	48.0	1,227	69.4	589
Never had sex	88.0	80.6	81.5	39.6	1,545	76.2	612
Married/living together	98.5	90.5	5.6	56.4	2,983	73.6	1,683
Divorced/separated/widowed	97.1	88.6	4.1	53.9	135	79.2	73
Residence							
Urban	97.9	89.0	32.6	54.3	1,889	71.4	1,026
Rural	93.9	86.1	38.1	48.3	4,002	74.5	1,931
Education							
No education	94.4	84.9	12.2	47.7	347	73.2	166
Primary	94.0	86.0	33.6	48.5	3,469	73.4	1,682
Secondary	96.9	88.9	51.4	51.4	1,741	74.0	895
More than secondary	99.3	90.4	11.7	64.1	334	70.6	214
Total 15–49	95.2	87.1	36.3	50.2	5,891	73.4	2,957
50–59	99.1	90.2	0.0	57.2	657	75.0	376
Total 15–59	95.6	87.4	32.7	50.9	6,548	73.6	3,333

Table 13.2 Discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV

Among women and men aged 15–49 years who have heard of HIV or AIDS, percentage who do not think that children living with HIV should be able to attend school with children who are HIV negative, percentage who would not buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper who has HIV, and percentage with discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women				Men			
	Percentage who do not think that children living with HIV should be able to attend school with children who are HIV negative	Percentage who would not buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper who has HIV	Percentage with discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV ¹	Number of women who have heard of HIV or AIDS	Percentage who do not think that children living with HIV should be able to attend school with children who are HIV negative	Percentage who would not buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper who has HIV	Percentage with discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV ¹	Number of men who have heard of HIV or AIDS
Age								
15–24	5.4	15.7	17.2	5,359	5.2	15.0	16.3	2,336
15–19	7.2	19.4	21.4	2,875	6.5	19.7	20.9	1,319
20–24	3.2	11.5	12.4	2,484	3.5	8.9	10.3	1,017
25–29	2.7	10.3	11.3	2,030	1.9	7.9	8.8	750
30–39	2.0	9.3	9.9	3,781	1.4	6.0	6.5	1,543
40–49	3.1	8.9	9.7	3,066	1.0	5.5	5.9	1,234
Marital status								
Never married	5.2	14.8	16.3	5,473	4.6	13.7	14.8	2,746
Ever had sex	4.1	12.3	13.4	2,055	3.5	10.4	11.7	1,224
Never had sex	5.8	16.4	17.9	3,419	5.4	16.3	17.2	1,523
Married/living together	2.6	9.8	10.5	7,400	1.4	6.1	6.7	2,982
Divorced/separated/widowed	2.8	10.4	11.1	1,362	1.5	9.9	10.6	134
Residence								
Urban	2.4	8.9	9.7	4,558	1.8	6.6	7.2	1,884
Rural	4.2	13.2	14.3	9,678	3.4	11.2	12.1	3,979
Province								
City of Kigali	2.4	6.6	7.5	2,286	2.0	5.9	6.8	1,017
Southern Province	2.7	10.2	11.3	3,078	2.1	8.7	9.7	1,311
Western Province	4.5	15.8	16.6	2,936	4.5	13.2	14.0	1,095
Northern Province	4.0	11.3	12.0	2,076	3.8	10.9	11.9	853
Eastern Province	4.1	13.3	14.6	3,861	2.5	9.9	10.6	1,586
Education								
No education	6.4	17.3	18.3	923	3.6	14.4	15.7	343
Primary	4.4	13.5	14.7	7,906	3.8	11.6	12.7	3,447
Secondary	2.2	9.0	9.8	4,760	1.4	6.7	7.2	1,739
More than secondary	0.1	3.3	3.3	647	0.0	1.1	1.1	334
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	5.8	16.4	17.7	2,624	4.8	14.3	15.5	995
Second	4.1	13.6	14.4	2,729	4.3	11.7	13.0	1,018
Middle	3.2	12.1	12.9	2,738	3.1	11.4	12.1	1,158
Fourth	3.1	9.6	10.9	2,877	1.9	7.5	8.0	1,278
Highest	2.2	8.3	9.1	3,268	1.3	5.7	6.4	1,414
Total 15–49	3.6	11.8	12.8	14,235	2.9	9.7	10.6	5,863
50–59	na	na	na	na	2.3	6.3	6.8	657
Total 15–59	na	na	na	na	2.8	9.4	10.2	6,520

na = Not applicable

¹ Percentage who do not think that children living with HIV should be able to attend school with children who are HIV negative and/or would not buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper who has HIV

Table 13.3.1 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the last 12 months: Women

Among all women aged 15–49 years, percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the last 12 months and percentage who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them; among women having more than one partner in the last 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; among women who had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner; and among women who ever had sexual intercourse, mean number of sexual partners during their lifetime, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	All women			Women who had 2+ partners in the last 12 months		Women who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them		Women who ever had sexual intercourse ¹	
	Percentage who had 2+ partners in the last 12 months	Percentage who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them	Number of women	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Number of women	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Number of women	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number of women
Age									
15–24	2.0	13.0	5,386	47.1	108	47.4	702	2.0	2,239
15–19	1.3	9.4	2,897	(36.8)	37	43.0	272	1.9	577
20–24	2.9	17.3	2,489	52.3	71	50.2	431	2.1	1,662
25–29	2.3	13.3	2,032	(45.0)	47	48.1	270	1.9	1,866
30–39	1.9	9.9	3,790	39.8	70	43.2	376	2.4	3,694
40–49	1.4	7.1	3,074	(27.5)	43	35.3	219	1.9	3,037
Marital status									
Never married	2.3	19.1	5,505	54.3	129	47.0	1,052	2.9	2,058
Married or living together	0.8	1.2	7,410	10.1	61	47.3	91	1.6	7,409
Divorced/separated/widowed	5.8	31.1	1,369	45.5	79	39.1	425	3.4	1,369
Residence									
Urban	2.7	14.2	4,570	39.0	125	48.7	651	3.0	3,450
Rural	1.5	9.4	9,713	44.0	143	42.1	918	1.7	7,386
Province									
City of Kigali	2.9	16.7	2,290	(40.9)	67	48.9	382	3.4	1,762
Southern Province	1.7	10.0	3,087	47.3	51	44.0	309	1.9	2,349
Western Province	1.2	7.6	2,949	(40.5)	37	43.4	224	1.8	2,147
Northern Province	1.6	9.0	2,089	(46.4)	34	47.9	188	1.6	1,577
Eastern Province	2.0	12.0	3,868	37.2	79	41.5	466	1.9	3,001
Education									
No education	2.3	10.0	929	*	22	24.9	93	2.6	878
Primary	2.2	11.5	7,938	43.5	172	42.1	915	2.0	6,625
Secondary	1.5	10.3	4,765	40.7	71	51.7	489	2.1	2,823
More than secondary	0.7	10.9	651	*	4	59.1	71	1.9	511
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	2.6	13.2	2,642	34.9	67	34.1	349	2.4	2,195
Second	1.5	9.6	2,738	(34.9)	41	37.1	264	1.9	2,107
Middle	2.0	9.6	2,746	51.7	54	49.3	264	1.8	2,084
Fourth	2.1	10.9	2,885	37.6	60	48.3	314	2.2	2,147
Highest	1.4	11.5	3,272	(50.9)	46	54.2	377	2.2	2,303
Total 15–49	1.9	11.0	14,283	41.7	268	44.8	1,568	2.1	10,836

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Means are calculated excluding respondents who gave non-numeric responses.

Table 13.3.2 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the last 12 months: Men

Among all men aged 15–49 years, percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the last 12 months and percentage who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them; among men having more than one partner in the last 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; among men who had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner; and among men who ever had sexual intercourse, mean number of sexual partners during their lifetime, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	All men			Men who had 2+ partners in the last 12 months		Men who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them		Men who ever had sexual intercourse ¹	
	Percentage who had 2+ partners in the last 12 months	Percentage who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them	Number of men	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Number of men	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Number of men	Mean number of sexual partners in lifetime	Number of men
Age									
15–24	3.5	14.0	2,356	63.0	83	73.8	331	2.7	942
15–19	1.0	6.1	1,337	*	13	74.0	82	2.0	279
20–24	6.9	24.5	1,019	58.7	70	73.8	249	3.0	663
25–29	8.6	23.7	754	30.7	65	67.1	179	3.9	670
30–39	8.7	14.3	1,545	22.0	135	64.1	220	3.3	1,505
40–49	7.0	11.0	1,236	8.9	87	66.7	136	3.5	1,219
Marital status									
Never married	4.7	20.5	2,772	69.1	129	72.4	568	3.3	1,225
Married or living together	7.4	7.5	2,983	4.9	221	61.3	225	3.1	2,978
Divorced/separated/widowed	14.5	54.7	135	*	20	64.5	74	6.0	134
Type of union									
In polygynous union	29.6	11.6	63	*	19	*	7	7.8	63
In nonpolygynous union	6.9	7.4	2,920	4.8	202	61.9	217	3.0	2,915
Not currently in union	5.1	22.1	2,908	66.7	149	71.5	642	3.6	1,359
Residence									
Urban	7.1	19.2	1,889	40.0	133	69.6	364	3.8	1,466
Rural	5.9	12.6	4,002	23.9	236	68.3	503	3.0	2,871
Province									
City of Kigali	7.2	21.5	1,020	46.0	74	65.6	219	4.3	827
Southern Province	3.8	11.3	1,317	24.2	50	73.2	149	2.7	887
Western Province	6.4	12.4	1,100	18.0	70	65.8	137	2.8	797
Northern Province	6.7	12.5	862	21.5	57	74.4	108	2.5	630
Eastern Province	7.4	15.9	1,591	32.8	118	68.3	254	3.8	1,195
Education									
No education	6.3	14.2	347	*	22	62.3	49	3.5	309
Primary	6.6	13.6	3,469	24.2	230	65.3	471	3.2	2,674
Secondary	5.7	16.3	1,741	43.0	99	75.2	285	3.6	1,062
More than secondary	5.6	18.5	334	*	19	71.6	62	3.3	293
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	6.9	13.8	1,003	18.9	70	62.0	139	3.6	757
Second	6.1	12.9	1,021	19.4	62	55.6	132	3.0	751
Middle	5.8	12.8	1,167	30.6	68	75.4	149	3.0	821
Fourth	6.7	15.1	1,281	31.8	85	74.1	193	3.0	949
Highest	6.0	17.8	1,419	43.3	85	71.6	253	3.8	1,059
Total 15–49	6.3	14.7	5,891	29.7	370	68.8	867	3.3	4,337
50–59	6.7	7.9	657	(10.0)	44	42.6	52	3.7	652
Total 15–59	6.3	14.0	6,548	27.6	414	67.3	919	3.3	4,989

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Means are calculated excluding respondents who gave non-numeric responses.

Table 13.3.3 Condom knowledge and self-efficacy

Among men aged 15–49 years who have heard about male condoms, percentage who know where to get a male condom and percentage who can get it by themselves if they want to, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who know where to get a male condom	Percentage who can get a male condom if they want it	Number of men who have heard about male condoms
Age			
15–24	94.0	81.8	2,267
15–19	91.2	73.3	1,264
20–24	97.5	92.5	1,003
25–29	98.8	96.6	747
30–39	98.9	96.2	1,531
40–49	97.8	93.0	1,228
Marital status			
Never married	94.9	84.0	2,675
Married or living together	98.3	94.9	2,962
Divorced/separated/widowed	98.6	97.1	134
Type of union			
In polygynous union	97.9	96.4	63
In nonpolygynous union	98.3	94.9	2,899
Not currently in union	95.1	84.6	2,810
Residence			
Urban	98.2	92.6	1,871
Rural	96.0	88.6	3,901
Province			
City of Kigali	99.3	94.6	1,016
Southern Province	94.7	84.0	1,293
Western Province	93.6	84.2	1,058
Northern Province	97.4	92.8	836
Eastern Province	98.5	94.2	1,570
Education			
No education	94.8	87.4	335
Primary	96.2	88.6	3,385
Secondary	97.6	91.7	1,718
More than secondary	99.6	96.1	334
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	93.9	85.6	979
Second	95.7	87.1	989
Middle	96.2	89.9	1,133
Fourth	97.8	90.8	1,270
Highest	98.9	94.1	1,402
Total 15–49	96.7	89.9	5,772
50–59	95.6	89.0	647
Total 15–59	96.6	89.8	6,419

Table 13.4 Pregnant women tested for HIV

Among all women aged 15–49 years who gave birth in the 2 years preceding the survey, percentage who received an HIV test during antenatal care (ANC) for their most recent birth by whether they received their results and percentage who received an HIV test during ANC or labour for their most recent birth by whether they received their results, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who were tested for HIV during antenatal care and who:		Percentage who had an HIV test during ANC or labour and who: ¹		Number of women who gave birth in the last 2 years ²
	Received results	Did not receive results	Received results	Did not receive results	
Age					
15–24	92.5	0.9	95.6	1.0	748
15–19	92.1	2.8	94.4	3.5	132
20–24	92.6	0.4	95.9	0.5	616
25–29	95.1	0.9	96.9	0.9	700
30–39	94.1	0.7	97.5	0.6	1,081
40–49	92.5	0.9	96.5	0.9	325
Marital status					
Never married	91.1	1.3	95.6	1.3	384
Married or living together	94.4	0.7	97.2	0.7	2,268
Divorced/separated/widowed	91.7	1.2	93.2	1.2	202
Residence					
Urban	93.7	0.3	97.3	0.4	850
Rural	93.8	1.0	96.5	1.0	2,004
Province					
City of Kigali	94.0	0.5	99.1	0.3	400
Southern Province	98.2	0.6	98.7	0.6	616
Western Province	95.6	1.0	96.5	1.1	598
Northern Province	86.5	0.3	94.7	0.0	390
Eastern Province	92.4	1.2	95.2	1.4	851
Education					
No education	91.0	1.4	94.6	1.4	141
Primary	92.7	1.0	96.1	1.0	1,723
Secondary	95.8	0.4	98.4	0.4	883
More than secondary	96.5	0.8	96.8	0.8	108
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	92.1	1.2	94.5	1.4	684
Second	94.2	0.7	96.9	0.7	586
Middle	93.4	1.1	96.7	1.1	536
Fourth	95.3	0.3	98.2	0.3	561
Highest	94.1	0.5	98.0	0.4	487
Total	93.7	0.8	96.7	0.8	2,854

¹ Women were asked whether they received an HIV test during labour only if they gave birth in a health facility.

² Denominator for percentages includes women who did not receive antenatal care for their last birth in the last 2 years.

Table 13.5.1 Coverage of prior HIV testing: Women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years by HIV testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test, percentage of women ever tested, and percentage of women who were tested in the last 12 months and received the results of the last test, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage distribution of women by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test				Percentage ever tested	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test	Number of women
	Ever tested and received results	Ever tested, did not receive results	Never tested ¹	Total			
Age							
15–24	45.5	1.7	52.8	100.0	47.2	21.6	5,386
15–19	24.1	1.4	74.5	100.0	25.5	11.8	2,897
20–24	70.5	2.0	27.5	100.0	72.5	33.0	2,489
25–29	92.6	1.8	5.7	100.0	94.3	38.4	2,032
30–39	96.9	1.4	1.7	100.0	98.3	37.4	3,790
40–49	96.9	1.0	2.1	100.0	97.9	25.8	3,074
Marital status							
Never married	44.7	1.4	53.9	100.0	46.1	18.4	5,505
Ever had sex	77.7	1.5	20.8	100.0	79.2	35.5	2,058
Never had sex	24.9	1.4	73.7	100.0	26.3	8.2	3,446
Married/living together	97.3	1.5	1.2	100.0	98.8	36.3	7,410
Divorced/separated/widowed	96.2	1.1	2.7	100.0	97.3	33.0	1,369
Residence							
Urban	78.4	1.3	20.3	100.0	79.7	32.2	4,570
Rural	76.2	1.5	22.2	100.0	77.8	27.6	9,713
Province							
City of Kigali	81.8	1.6	16.6	100.0	83.4	33.3	2,290
Southern Province	76.9	1.3	21.8	100.0	78.2	28.3	3,087
Western Province	74.3	0.9	24.8	100.0	75.2	29.2	2,949
Northern Province	76.4	0.7	22.9	100.0	77.1	28.4	2,089
Eastern Province	76.3	2.4	21.3	100.0	78.7	27.5	3,868
Education							
No education	90.2	1.2	8.5	100.0	91.5	27.3	929
Primary	80.7	1.3	18.0	100.0	82.0	28.8	7,938
Secondary	66.4	1.7	31.9	100.0	68.1	29.0	4,765
More than secondary	88.6	1.8	9.6	100.0	90.4	35.6	651
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	79.5	1.6	19.0	100.0	81.0	27.8	2,642
Second	76.5	1.2	22.3	100.0	77.7	28.5	2,738
Middle	77.1	1.6	21.3	100.0	78.7	28.4	2,746
Fourth	77.0	1.4	21.6	100.0	78.4	30.4	2,885
Highest	74.9	1.5	23.6	100.0	76.4	30.1	3,272
Total	76.9	1.5	21.6	100.0	78.4	29.1	14,283

¹ Includes respondents who have not heard of HIV or who refused to answer questions on testing



Table 13.5.2 Coverage of prior HIV testing: Men

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years by HIV testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test, percentage of men ever tested, and percentage of men who were tested in the last 12 months and received the results of the last test, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage distribution of men by testing status and by whether they received the results of the last test				Percentage ever tested	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test	Number of men
	Ever tested and received results	Ever tested, did not receive results	Never tested ¹	Total			
Age							
15–24	35.6	1.2	63.2	100.0	36.8	11.6	2,356
15–19	18.2	0.8	81.0	100.0	19.0	5.4	1,337
20–24	58.5	1.7	39.8	100.0	60.2	19.8	1,019
25–29	87.6	1.4	11.0	100.0	89.0	29.8	754
30–39	96.2	0.6	3.2	100.0	96.8	29.6	1,545
40–49	97.1	0.6	2.3	100.0	97.7	25.3	1,236
Marital status							
Never married	41.6	1.4	56.9	100.0	43.1	13.0	2,772
Ever had sex	61.1	1.7	37.2	100.0	62.8	21.9	1,227
Never had sex	26.2	1.2	72.6	100.0	27.4	6.0	1,545
Married/living together	97.4	0.4	2.2	100.0	97.8	28.7	2,983
Divorced/separated/widowed	92.7	2.7	4.5	100.0	95.5	37.8	135
Residence							
Urban	77.2	1.0	21.8	100.0	78.2	26.0	1,889
Rural	68.1	0.9	30.9	100.0	69.1	19.5	4,002
Province							
City of Kigali	80.0	1.1	18.9	100.0	81.1	28.6	1,020
Southern Province	66.9	1.5	31.6	100.0	68.4	19.8	1,317
Western Province	69.3	0.8	29.9	100.0	70.1	19.2	1,100
Northern Province	74.5	0.5	25.1	100.0	74.9	19.9	862
Eastern Province	68.0	0.9	31.1	100.0	68.9	21.0	1,591
Education							
No education	81.6	1.3	17.2	100.0	82.8	22.6	347
Primary	70.5	0.7	28.7	100.0	71.3	19.2	3,469
Secondary	65.4	1.4	33.2	100.0	66.8	22.6	1,741
More than secondary	94.9	1.0	4.1	100.0	95.9	38.7	334
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	67.9	1.4	30.7	100.0	69.3	19.8	1,003
Second	69.9	0.9	29.1	100.0	70.9	19.1	1,021
Middle	68.9	0.7	30.4	100.0	69.6	19.5	1,167
Fourth	71.3	0.6	28.1	100.0	71.9	22.5	1,281
Highest	75.5	1.2	23.3	100.0	76.7	25.4	1,419
Total 15–49	71.0	1.0	28.0	100.0	72.0	21.5	5,891
50–59	94.0	1.3	4.6	100.0	95.4	20.8	657
Total 15–59	73.3	1.0	25.7	100.0	74.3	21.5	6,548

¹ Includes respondents who have not heard of HIV or who refused to answer questions on testing



Table 13.6 Number of times tested for HIV in lifetime

Percentage distribution of women and men aged 15–49 years by number of times they have been tested for HIV in their lifetime, according to age, Rwanda DHS 2025

	Number of times tested for HIV in lifetime							Never tested	Total	Number of respondents
Age	1	2	3	4	5–9	10–19	20+			
WOMEN										
15–24	15.3	13.2	9.4	3.4	4.4	1.0	0.6	52.8	100.0	5,386
15–19	11.9	7.0	3.7	1.0	1.4	0.3	0.1	74.5	100.0	2,897
20–24	19.3	20.3	16.0	6.2	7.9	1.7	1.1	27.5	100.0	2,489
25–29	8.5	20.2	26.0	12.7	19.9	5.6	1.6	5.7	100.0	2,032
30–39	2.7	8.3	19.6	17.6	38.3	9.2	2.6	1.7	100.0	3,790
40–49	3.0	6.2	12.0	13.0	45.9	13.9	4.0	2.1	100.0	3,074
Total 15–49	8.4	11.4	15.0	10.5	24.5	6.6	2.0	21.6	100.0	14,283
MEN										
15–24	18.0	8.5	5.0	1.6	2.6	0.6	0.5	63.2	100.0	2,356
15–19	12.5	4.4	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	81.0	100.0	1,337
20–24	25.3	14.0	10.0	3.3	5.6	1.1	1.0	39.8	100.0	1,019
25–29	13.6	20.6	24.0	8.3	15.2	5.9	1.4	11.0	100.0	754
30–39	7.0	14.1	22.3	13.9	27.8	9.1	2.6	3.2	100.0	1,545
40–49	5.4	8.1	16.6	13.6	38.1	12.0	3.9	2.3	100.0	1,236
Total 15–49	11.9	11.5	14.4	8.2	18.3	5.9	1.8	28.0	100.0	5,891
50–59	8.3	13.0	18.0	10.3	30.1	11.0	4.6	4.6	100.0	657
Total 15–59	11.6	11.6	14.8	8.4	19.5	6.4	2.1	25.7	100.0	6,548

Table 13.7 Knowledge and coverage of self-testing for HIV

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever heard of HIV self-test kits, and percentage who have ever used an HIV self-test kit, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Ever heard of HIV self-test kits	Ever used an HIV self-test kit	Number of women	Ever heard of HIV self-test kits	Ever used an HIV self-test kit	Number of men
Age						
15–19	29.5	1.4	2,897	28.9	0.7	1,337
20–24	48.4	6.1	2,489	54.2	4.8	1,019
25–29	54.1	8.2	2,032	67.5	9.3	754
30–34	53.7	8.5	1,879	69.4	10.9	766
35–39	50.7	7.4	1,911	66.3	8.2	779
40–44	40.5	3.7	1,730	61.7	6.8	731
45–49	38.7	4.2	1,344	56.1	6.0	505
Residence						
Urban	58.9	10.5	4,570	68.6	11.6	1,889
Rural	37.7	3.1	9,713	48.3	3.4	4,002
Education						
No education	27.9	2.4	929	35.9	3.8	347
Primary	38.1	3.4	7,938	49.1	3.1	3,469
Secondary	53.2	7.8	4,765	64.0	9.0	1,741
More than secondary	82.5	18.6	651	86.9	23.1	334
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	28.9	2.0	2,642	35.8	1.9	1,003
Second	33.8	2.5	2,738	42.5	2.8	1,021
Middle	41.2	3.4	2,746	52.2	4.0	1,167
Fourth	52.1	6.6	2,885	62.8	5.8	1,281
Highest	62.2	11.5	3,272	72.2	13.2	1,419
Total 15–49	44.5	5.5	14,283	54.8	6.1	5,891
50–59	na	na	na	52.9	5.2	657
Total 15–59	na	na	na	54.6	6.0	6,548

na = Not applicable

Table 13.8.1 Disclosure, shame, and stigma experienced by people living with HIV: Women

Among women aged 15–49 years who reported the result of their last HIV test as HIV positive, percentage who have ever disclosed their positive HIV status to anyone, percentage who feel ashamed because of their positive HIV status, and percentage who reported experiencing stigma in the past 12 months due to their HIV status, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Experience of stigma in a community setting in the last 12 months among people living with HIV:						Experience of stigma in a health care setting in the last 12 months among people living with HIV:		Number of self-reported HIV positive women
	Percentage who have disclosed their positive HIV status to anyone	Percentage who feel ashamed because of their positive HIV status	People talked badly about them because of their HIV status	Someone else disclosed their HIV status without their permission	Have been verbally insulted, harassed, or threatened because of their HIV status	Experienced stigma in a community setting	Health care workers talked badly about them because of their HIV status	Were yelled at, scolded, called names, or verbally abused in another way because of their HIV status	
Age									
15–24	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	15
15–19	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	7
20–24	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	8
25–29	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	18
30–39	84.3	46.0	49.3	49.5	41.3	62.4	11.9	7.8	98
40–49	87.6	39.9	52.8	53.4	30.9	62.8	5.1	4.1	126
Marital status									
Never married	(81.9)	(43.6)	(39.2)	(42.9)	(26.2)	(45.7)	(12.7)	(10.0)	39
Married or living together	78.7	45.5	52.0	47.8	31.1	61.4	9.8	7.0	125
Divorced/separated/widowed	92.2	46.6	51.3	56.7	38.8	65.1	3.3	1.2	94
Residence									
Urban	83.2	47.7	45.5	45.9	34.5	55.7	10.0	6.7	107
Rural	84.7	44.1	52.9	53.5	32.3	63.8	6.3	4.3	150
Province									
City of Kigali	(84.4)	(35.8)	(34.4)	(29.4)	(22.9)	(42.4)	(9.1)	(4.7)	57
Southern Province	83.9	43.9	48.3	47.7	34.1	58.4	5.1	3.8	68
Western Province	85.4	46.2	62.0	61.4	42.6	69.7	5.7	3.9	48
Northern Province	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	22
Eastern Province	81.6	53.1	58.1	64.2	34.6	71.9	10.7	8.9	62
Education									
No education	(78.5)	(54.2)	(43.4)	(48.4)	(21.2)	(52.6)	(1.9)	(1.9)	50
Primary	85.4	46.0	52.9	53.6	39.4	64.6	9.7	5.7	172
Secondary	(84.9)	(32.2)	(43.0)	(35.9)	(21.3)	(50.6)	(6.8)	(8.9)	33
More than secondary	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	82.7	49.8	56.3	57.9	32.0	65.7	8.1	5.8	77
Second	88.5	42.1	61.7	56.7	41.8	68.6	6.3	3.3	51
Middle	75.9	45.8	34.0	46.3	36.1	56.0	4.1	3.1	50
Fourth	81.3	49.4	47.7	49.0	31.5	54.7	10.4	7.3	46
Highest	(96.5)	(36.0)	(43.4)	(31.2)	(21.1)	(50.3)	(11.6)	(8.0)	34
Total	84.1	45.6	49.8	50.3	33.2	60.4	7.8	5.3	257

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 13.8.2 Disclosure, shame, and stigma experienced by people living with HIV: Men

Among men aged 15–49 years who reported the result of their last HIV test as HIV positive, percentage who have ever disclosed their positive HIV status to anyone, percentage who feel ashamed because of their positive HIV status, and percentage who reported experiencing stigma in the past 12 months due to their HIV status, Rwanda DHS 2025

	Experience of stigma in a community setting in the last 12 months among people living with HIV:						Experience of stigma in a health care setting in the last 12 months among people living with HIV:		
	Percentage who have disclosed their positive HIV status to anyone	Percentage who feel ashamed because of their positive HIV status	People talked badly about them because of their HIV status	Someone else disclosed their HIV status without their permission	Have been verbally insulted, harassed, or threatened because of their HIV status	Experience of stigma in a community setting	Health care workers talked badly about them because of their HIV status	Were yelled at, scolded, called names, or verbally abused in another way because of their HIV status	Number of self- reported HIV positive men
Total 15–49	79.0	22.7	31.0	36.3	29.3	43.8	2.4	0.0	49
50–59	(80.3)	(9.7)	(22.1)	(36.2)	(13.6)	(37.7)	(0.0)	(0.0)	31
Total 15–59	79.5	17.7	27.5	36.3	23.2	41.4	1.4	0.0	80

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.



Table 13.9 Male circumcision

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years by circumcision status, percentage traditionally or medically circumcised, and percentage medically circumcised, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Circumcision status						Total	Percentage traditionally or medically circumcised ¹	Percentage medically circumcised ²	Number of men
	Traditionally circumcised only	Medically circumcised only	Both traditionally and medically circumcised	Circumcised, don't know type	Not circumcised	Don't know circumcision status				
Age										
15–19	0.6	85.4	0.3	0.0	13.4	0.3	100.0	86.3	85.7	1,337
20–24	0.9	88.8	0.1	0.2	10.0	0.0	100.0	90.0	89.0	1,019
25–29	2.2	78.7	0.0	0.0	18.9	0.2	100.0	81.0	78.7	754
30–34	2.2	70.5	0.3	0.0	27.0	0.0	100.0	73.0	70.8	766
35–39	2.1	56.7	0.0	0.1	41.0	0.0	100.0	59.0	56.8	779
40–44	2.2	41.5	0.0	0.4	56.0	0.0	100.0	44.0	41.8	731
45–49	2.5	38.5	0.7	0.2	58.1	0.0	100.0	41.9	39.3	505
Religion										
Catholic	1.2	68.2	0.0	0.2	30.4	0.0	100.0	69.5	68.3	2,453
Protestant	1.6	70.2	0.4	0.1	27.7	0.1	100.0	72.2	70.6	2,370
Adventist	1.5	73.7	0.1	0.1	24.7	0.0	100.0	75.3	73.8	716
Muslim	11.4	83.0	0.7	0.7	3.3	1.0	100.0	95.7	84.4	146
Traditional	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
Jehovah	(0.0)	(59.7)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(40.3)	(0.0)	(100.0)	(59.7)	(59.7)	35
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
No Religion	1.9	66.2	0.0	0.0	31.8	0.0	100.0	68.2	66.2	167
Residence										
Urban	2.0	79.3	0.3	0.2	18.2	0.1	100.0	81.8	79.7	1,889
Rural	1.5	65.5	0.1	0.1	32.7	0.1	100.0	67.2	65.7	4,002
Province										
City of Kigali	1.4	79.4	0.5	0.2	18.4	0.1	100.0	81.5	80.1	1,020
Southern Province	0.8	64.9	0.3	0.2	33.7	0.1	100.0	66.2	65.3	1,317
Western Province	3.2	67.8	0.1	0.1	28.6	0.2	100.0	71.2	68.0	1,100
Northern Province	0.3	65.2	0.0	0.0	34.4	0.0	100.0	65.6	65.2	862
Eastern Province	2.1	72.0	0.1	0.0	25.7	0.1	100.0	74.2	72.1	1,591
Education										
No education	3.3	40.6	0.4	0.3	55.5	0.0	100.0	44.5	41.2	347
Primary	1.6	62.0	0.2	0.1	36.0	0.2	100.0	63.8	62.2	3,469
Secondary	1.3	88.4	0.1	0.0	10.2	0.0	100.0	89.8	88.5	1,741
More than secondary	2.4	86.8	0.5	0.8	9.5	0.0	100.0	90.5	88.0	334
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	1.7	53.7	0.3	0.1	44.1	0.1	100.0	55.9	54.1	1,003
Second	1.8	62.8	0.1	0.0	35.1	0.1	100.0	64.7	63.0	1,021
Middle	1.4	67.5	0.1	0.1	30.8	0.1	100.0	69.1	67.7	1,167
Fourth	1.8	74.8	0.0	0.2	23.1	0.1	100.0	76.8	75.0	1,281
Highest	1.5	84.2	0.3	0.1	13.7	0.1	100.0	86.2	84.5	1,419
Total 15–49	1.6	69.9	0.2	0.1	28.0	0.1	100.0	71.9	70.2	5,891
50–59	2.1	23.7	0.3	0.4	73.5	0.0	100.0	26.5	24.0	657
Total 15–59	1.7	65.3	0.2	0.1	32.6	0.1	100.0	67.3	65.6	6,548

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Includes all men who report they are circumcised

² Includes all men who report that they are medically circumcised (those who are also traditionally circumcised, those who are not traditionally circumcised, and those who don't know whether or not they are traditionally circumcised)

Table 13.10 Self-reported prevalence of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and STI symptoms

Among women and men aged 15–49 years who ever had sexual intercourse, percentage reporting having an STI and/or symptoms of an STI in the last 12 months, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women					Men				
	Percentage of women who reported having in the past 12 months:					Percentage of men who reported having in the past 12 months:				
	STI	Bad-smelling/abnormal genital discharge	Genital sore or ulcer	STI/genital discharge/sore or ulcer	Number of women who ever had sexual intercourse	STI	Bad-smelling/abnormal discharge from penis	Genital sore or ulcer	STI/abnormal discharge from penis/sore or ulcer	Number of men who ever had sexual intercourse
Age										
15–24	8.3	14.6	7.9	19.4	2,239	4.4	6.3	2.4	8.5	942
15–19	5.3	12.0	8.0	17.8	577	3.4	6.0	1.2	8.4	279
20–24	9.3	15.6	7.9	20.0	1,662	4.8	6.5	3.0	8.6	663
25–29	8.5	15.8	7.6	19.9	1,866	6.2	5.8	3.5	9.1	672
30–39	8.6	17.8	9.3	21.7	3,694	5.8	5.1	3.2	8.4	1,509
40–49	8.5	15.5	9.8	20.1	3,037	4.9	4.1	3.1	7.9	1,222
Marital status										
Never married	8.0	14.0	7.6	18.2	2,058	4.9	5.6	2.3	8.1	1,227
Married or living together	8.5	16.0	8.9	20.4	7,409	5.3	4.9	3.2	8.4	2,983
Divorced/separated/widowed	9.1	20.0	10.5	24.6	1,369	8.9	6.9	6.7	11.4	135
Circumcision status										
Traditionally or medically circumcised ¹	na	na	na	na	na	5.0	4.9	2.7	8.0	2,918
Traditionally circumcised only	na	na	na	na	na	6.6	5.7	3.8	6.6	83
Medically circumcised only	na	na	na	na	na	5.0	4.9	2.6	8.1	2,821
Both traditionally and medically circumcised	na	na	na	na	na	*	*	*	*	9
Other ²	na	na	na	na	na	*	*	*	*	5
Not circumcised or don't know	na	na	na	na	na	5.9	5.7	3.9	9.3	1,427
Residence										
Urban	10.3	17.8	9.3	21.9	3,450	4.5	4.0	2.5	6.8	1,473
Rural	7.6	15.4	8.6	19.8	7,386	5.7	5.8	3.4	9.2	2,872
Province										
City of Kigali	11.3	17.1	9.9	21.3	1,762	5.1	3.6	1.7	5.6	832
Southern Province	7.0	14.1	7.4	18.0	2,349	5.1	5.6	3.3	9.9	887
Western Province	6.0	12.6	5.3	16.7	2,147	4.7	4.7	3.6	8.3	798
Northern Province	6.7	15.2	6.6	19.3	1,577	4.9	5.2	2.4	8.6	630
Eastern Province	10.7	20.3	13.1	25.3	3,001	6.2	6.3	3.9	9.2	1,199
Education										
No education	9.7	16.3	9.4	20.1	878	5.6	6.7	4.7	10.5	309
Primary	8.8	16.9	9.9	21.5	6,625	5.5	5.7	3.8	9.1	2,679
Secondary	7.6	15.5	7.2	19.4	2,823	5.0	4.2	1.4	7.0	1,062
More than secondary	6.8	9.7	3.9	14.0	511	4.0	2.4	0.8	5.4	295
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	7.6	15.9	9.6	20.4	2,195	6.7	7.1	4.3	10.0	758
Second	8.1	15.9	9.0	20.4	2,107	6.7	7.0	4.2	10.9	751
Middle	8.5	15.7	8.9	20.1	2,084	4.3	4.8	2.7	7.5	821
Fourth	9.6	18.7	9.6	22.6	2,147	4.6	3.8	2.6	7.9	952
Highest	8.6	14.7	7.3	19.1	2,303	4.7	4.1	2.2	6.7	1,063
Total 15–49	8.5	16.2	8.9	20.5	10,836	5.3	5.2	3.1	8.4	4,346
50–59	na	na	na	na	na	3.9	2.7	2.9	6.5	653
Total 15–59	na	na	na	na	na	5.1	4.9	3.1	8.2	4,999

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

¹ Includes all men who report they are circumcised

² Includes men who report they are (1) medically circumcised but don't know whether they are traditionally circumcised, (2) traditionally circumcised but don't know whether they are medically circumcised, or (3) circumcised but don't know the type of circumcision

Table 13.11 Prevalence of medical injections

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who received at least one medical injection in the past 12 months, average number of medical injections per person in the past 12 months, and among those who received a medical injection, percentage of last medical injections for which the syringe and needle came from a new, unopened package, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who received a medical injection in the past 12 months	Average number of medical injections per person in the past 12 months	Number of women	Among women receiving medical injections in the past 12 months	
				For last injection, syringe and needle taken from a new, unopened package	Number of women
Age					
15–24	32.7	0.8	5,386	99.3	1,761
15–19	25.0	0.5	2,897	99.9	724
20–24	41.7	1.0	2,489	99.0	1,037
25–29	52.2	1.4	2,032	98.8	1,061
30–39	47.2	1.3	3,790	99.3	1,790
40–49	37.0	0.9	3,074	99.1	1,137
Marital status					
Never married	28.9	0.6	5,505	99.5	1,590
Married or living together	48.7	1.3	7,410	99.1	3,610
Divorced/separated/widowed	40.1	1.0	1,369	98.7	548
Residence					
Urban	42.4	1.1	4,570	99.3	1,937
Rural	39.2	1.0	9,713	99.1	3,812
Province					
City of Kigali	42.4	1.0	2,290	98.9	970
Southern Province	41.6	1.0	3,087	98.7	1,284
Western Province	38.7	1.0	2,949	99.0	1,140
Northern Province	34.3	0.9	2,089	99.6	717
Eastern Province	42.3	1.2	3,868	99.7	1,637
Education					
No education	36.8	0.8	929	98.1	342
Primary	40.7	1.1	7,938	99.1	3,229
Secondary	39.9	1.0	4,765	99.5	1,900
More than secondary	42.8	1.1	651	99.4	278
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	39.5	1.0	2,642	98.6	1,044
Second	38.3	1.0	2,738	99.2	1,048
Middle	42.1	1.0	2,746	99.5	1,156
Fourth	40.5	1.1	2,885	99.4	1,170
Highest	40.7	1.0	3,272	99.1	1,331
Total	40.3	1.0	14,283	99.2	5,749

Note: Medical injections are those given by a doctor, nurse, pharmacist, dentist, or other health worker.



Table 13.12.1 Knowledge about HIV prevention among young people: Women

Percentages of young women aged 15–24 years who, in response to prompted questions, say that people can reduce their risk of getting HIV by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse and by having one sex partner who is not infected and has no other partners, that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, that HIV cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites, and that a person cannot get HIV by sharing food with a person who has HIV, and percentage with knowledge about HIV prevention, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who know:						Number of women
	People can reduce their risk of getting HIV by:			HIV cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites	A person cannot get HIV by sharing food with a person who has HIV	Percentage with knowledge about HIV prevention ¹	
	Using a condom every time they have sex	Having sex with only one uninfected partner who has no other partners	A healthy-looking person can have HIV				
Age							
15–19	87.7	83.2	80.5	86.7	90.3	53.9	2,897
15–17	86.2	81.0	77.0	87.1	89.3	50.0	1,749
18–19	90.0	86.5	85.9	86.2	91.8	60.0	1,148
20–24	91.7	88.5	88.4	85.7	91.8	61.3	2,489
20–22	91.0	87.6	87.7	85.7	91.3	59.4	1,593
23–24	93.0	90.1	89.8	85.9	92.7	64.6	897
Marital status							
Never married	88.9	84.5	83.1	86.9	91.1	56.5	4,339
Ever had sex	91.1	90.2	87.4	85.6	89.5	60.1	1,191
Never had sex	88.1	82.4	81.5	87.3	91.7	55.1	3,147
Ever married	92.3	90.2	88.6	83.8	90.5	61.0	1,048
Residence							
Urban	89.8	87.3	89.2	87.5	90.6	62.2	1,758
Rural	89.4	84.8	81.8	85.7	91.2	55.0	3,628
Province							
City of Kigali	89.8	86.8	91.4	87.8	91.0	63.2	878
Southern Province	90.6	86.3	84.7	88.9	93.6	58.9	1,116
Western Province	87.5	82.9	77.9	86.0	90.6	51.5	1,095
Northern Province	90.7	84.8	84.6	85.4	89.5	59.9	778
Eastern Province	89.6	86.8	83.9	84.1	90.1	55.7	1,519
Education							
No education	72.5	78.8	67.0	70.7	77.8	32.4	70
Primary	86.8	83.9	80.2	82.6	87.6	50.3	2,475
Secondary	92.3	87.1	87.6	89.6	94.1	63.3	2,712
More than secondary	94.8	91.7	97.6	94.9	97.1	80.4	129
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	86.6	82.9	77.7	83.4	89.1	50.8	908
Second	88.4	84.2	80.3	86.6	90.5	54.6	1,022
Middle	89.2	86.9	85.8	85.2	90.6	55.8	1,041
Fourth	92.3	86.2	85.5	87.8	93.1	60.6	1,110
Highest	90.6	87.1	89.2	87.6	91.1	62.4	1,305
Total 15–24	89.6	85.6	84.2	86.3	91.0	57.3	5,386

¹ Knowledge about HIV prevention means knowing that consistent use of condoms during sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and rejecting two major misconceptions about HIV transmission: HIV can be transmitted by mosquito bites and a person can become infected by sharing food with a person who has HIV.

Table 13.12.2 Knowledge about HIV prevention among young people: Men

Percentages of young men aged 15–24 years who, in response to prompted questions, say that people can reduce their risk of getting HIV by using condoms every time they have sexual intercourse and by having one sex partner who is not infected and has no other partners, that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, that HIV cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites, and that a person cannot get HIV by sharing food with a person who has HIV, and percentage with knowledge about HIV prevention, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who know:						Number of men
	People can reduce their risk of getting HIV by:		A healthy-looking person can have HIV	HIV cannot be transmitted by mosquito bites	A person cannot get HIV by sharing food with a person who has HIV	Percentage with knowledge about HIV prevention ¹	
	Using a condom every time they have sex	Having sex with only one uninfected partner who has no other partners					
Age							
15–19	89.7	83.8	72.2	84.1	89.0	46.8	1,337
15–17	88.3	81.3	67.3	85.1	88.6	42.2	810
18–19	91.9	87.6	79.7	82.5	89.5	54.0	526
20–24	94.2	91.6	83.9	84.4	91.9	60.5	1,019
20–22	93.2	91.9	82.5	83.4	91.0	58.3	652
23–24	96.0	91.0	86.2	86.1	93.6	64.4	367
Marital status							
Never married	91.3	86.4	76.7	84.5	90.4	52.3	2,174
Ever had sex	92.8	91.1	82.8	83.5	91.1	58.3	760
Never had sex	90.5	83.8	73.4	85.0	90.0	49.0	1,414
Ever married	95.9	96.4	83.7	80.9	88.8	58.4	182
Residence							
Urban	94.7	91.3	85.2	86.9	92.5	63.2	657
Rural	90.5	85.5	74.1	83.2	89.4	48.7	1,699
Province							
City of Kigali	95.9	93.2	88.9	87.4	94.8	70.1	331
Southern Province	93.2	81.6	85.7	82.6	87.5	51.2	592
Western Province	89.1	85.0	69.4	80.5	85.1	43.0	428
Northern Province	90.6	85.6	70.8	84.4	90.0	51.6	338
Eastern Province	90.4	91.2	72.2	86.4	93.8	52.3	667
Education							
No education	(86.3)	(85.6)	(57.7)	(72.6)	(80.3)	(40.2)	51
Primary	88.6	85.2	74.8	81.4	87.8	46.8	1,302
Secondary	96.0	89.6	80.9	88.6	93.8	60.6	962
More than secondary	(94.2)	(92.8)	(94.6)	(87.4)	(97.3)	(71.9)	41
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	87.4	86.7	74.9	81.6	85.9	46.1	372
Second	90.8	86.6	74.9	85.1	91.3	51.4	427
Middle	90.0	84.5	72.5	80.5	87.2	46.0	493
Fourth	94.5	89.0	77.5	86.4	92.0	56.7	539
Highest	94.1	88.5	85.0	86.6	93.6	60.8	524
Total 15–24	91.7	87.2	77.2	84.2	90.3	52.7	2,356

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Knowledge about HIV prevention means knowing that consistent use of condoms during sexual intercourse and having just one uninfected faithful partner can reduce the chance of getting HIV, knowing that a healthy-looking person can have HIV, and rejecting two major misconceptions about HIV transmission: HIV can be transmitted by mosquito bites and a person can become infected by sharing food with a person who has HIV.

Table 13.13 Knowledge of prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV among young people

Percentage of women and men aged 15–24 years who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to child during pregnancy, during delivery, by breastfeeding, and by all three means, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women					Men				
	Percentage who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to child				Number of women	Percentage who know that HIV can be transmitted from mother to child				Number of men
	During pregnancy	During delivery	By breast-feeding	By all three means		During pregnancy	During delivery	By breast-feeding	By all three means	
Age										
15–19	74.7	85.3	85.9	64.2	2,875	69.7	85.1	80.1	57.7	1,319
20–24	73.6	89.0	88.6	65.3	2,484	67.7	87.3	84.1	57.3	1,017
Marital status										
Never married	73.2	86.3	86.3	63.6	4,312	68.6	85.9	81.3	57.2	2,154
Ever had sex	74.6	86.7	86.7	64.9	1,189	72.7	86.5	82.5	60.9	758
Never had sex	72.6	86.2	86.1	63.1	3,123	66.4	85.5	80.6	55.2	1,396
Married/living together	78.9	89.5	91.1	70.0	930	70.8	87.6	88.5	60.1	176
Divorced/separated/ widowed	75.0	89.8	89.1	64.3	117	*	*	*	*	6
Residence										
Urban	72.4	87.8	87.1	63.6	1,754	69.4	89.7	85.4	60.2	655
Rural	75.0	86.5	87.2	65.3	3,605	68.6	84.6	80.5	56.5	1,681
Province										
City of Kigali	69.9	89.2	87.6	63.6	877	68.6	96.6	87.5	60.1	331
Southern Province	79.4	89.6	89.8	71.1	1,109	59.6	80.7	78.6	48.6	590
Western Province	72.4	87.0	88.2	64.0	1,086	64.1	79.1	82.6	54.2	424
Northern Province	75.8	89.6	87.4	66.2	771	68.5	87.6	76.5	56.9	329
Eastern Province	73.3	82.4	84.1	60.6	1,517	80.3	89.1	84.1	66.6	662
Education										
No education	67.0	83.1	81.8	59.6	67	(71.6)	(82.2)	(78.2)	(57.9)	49
Primary	75.5	82.1	84.2	62.8	2,455	71.5	81.8	79.6	58.1	1,286
Secondary	73.7	91.1	89.9	67.0	2,707	65.5	91.3	85.0	57.1	960
More than secondary	62.4	93.6	87.9	56.4	129	(60.8)	(97.7)	(83.0)	(49.1)	41
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	75.4	83.4	86.9	65.5	895	74.1	85.1	83.2	62.2	369
Second	77.7	87.2	86.8	67.1	1,016	68.4	82.5	79.1	56.0	425
Middle	75.6	87.6	87.5	65.7	1,036	68.7	86.4	80.1	57.4	484
Fourth	73.2	88.9	88.6	66.5	1,107	68.2	87.3	82.5	55.9	536
Highest	70.3	87.1	86.1	60.1	1,305	66.3	87.9	84.0	57.2	521
Total 15–24	74.2	87.0	87.2	64.7	5,359	68.8	86.0	81.9	57.5	2,336

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 13.14 Age at first sexual intercourse among young people

Percentage of young women and young men aged 15–24 years who had sexual intercourse before age 15 and percentage of young women and young men aged 18–24 years who had sexual intercourse before age 18, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women aged 15–24 years		Women aged 18–24 years		Men aged 15–24 years		Men aged 18–24 years	
	Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 15	Number of women	Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 18	Number of women	Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 15	Number of men	Percentage who had sexual intercourse before age 18	Number of men
Age								
15–19	4.4	2,897	na	na	8.8	1,337	na	na
15–17	4.6	1,749	na	na	8.7	810	na	na
18–19	3.9	1,148	23.3	1,148	8.8	526	27.2	526
20–24	2.1	2,489	19.4	2,489	4.3	1,019	19.2	1,019
20–22	2.4	1,593	20.8	1,593	4.5	652	20.4	652
23–24	1.6	897	16.8	897	3.7	367	17.2	367
Residence								
Urban	2.8	1,758	20.7	1,281	4.6	657	23.0	474
Rural	3.6	3,628	20.6	2,356	7.7	1,699	21.5	1,072
Education								
No education	7.5	70	(31.6)	51	(11.8)	51	(32.1)	34
Primary	4.8	2,475	29.1	1,607	7.1	1,302	22.7	810
Secondary	2.0	2,712	14.2	1,850	6.2	962	21.1	660
More than secondary	0.4	129	2.6	129	(5.2)	41	(11.9)	41
Total	3.3	5,386	20.6	3,637	6.8	2,356	22.0	1,546

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

na = Not applicable

Table 13.15 Premarital sexual intercourse among young people

Among never-married women and men aged 15–24 years, percentage who have never had sexual intercourse, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women aged 15–24 years		Men aged 15–24 years	
	Percentage who have never had sexual intercourse	Number of never-married women	Percentage who have never had sexual intercourse	Number of never-married men
Age				
15–19	83.1	2,790	79.3	1,334
15–17	88.9	1,737	87.7	810
18–19	73.7	1,053	66.3	523
20–24	53.5	1,548	42.4	841
20–22	57.5	1,118	46.9	572
23–24	43.0	430	32.8	268
Residence				
Urban	68.0	1,460	58.3	610
Rural	74.8	2,878	67.7	1,564
Education				
No education	(65.4)	48	(55.5)	50
Primary	65.4	1,841	63.9	1,155
Secondary	78.4	2,330	68.1	929
More than secondary	71.9	121	(38.2)	40
Total	72.5	4,339	65.0	2,174

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

Table 13.16.1 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the last 12 months among young people: Women

Among all young women aged 15–24 years, percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the last 12 months and percentage who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them; among young women having more than one partner in the last 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; and among young women who had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women aged 15–24 years			Women aged 15–24 years who had 2+ partners in the last 12 months		Women aged 15–24 years who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them	
	Percentage who had 2+ partners in the last 12 months	Percentage who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their husband nor lived with them	Number of women	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Number of women	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Number of women
Age							
15–19	1.3	9.4	2,897	(36.8)	37	43.0	272
15–17	1.0	6.2	1,749	*	17	48.0	109
18–19	1.7	14.2	1,148	*	19	39.7	163
20–24	2.9	17.3	2,489	52.3	71	50.2	431
20–22	2.6	18.0	1,593	(44.4)	42	51.0	287
23–24	3.3	16.0	897	(63.7)	29	48.7	144
Marital status							
Never married	1.7	14.4	4,339	63.9	74	48.6	627
Ever married	3.3	7.2	1,048	(10.8)	34	37.5	75
Residence							
Urban	2.3	15.4	1,758	(40.7)	41	49.3	271
Rural	1.9	11.9	3,628	50.9	67	46.3	432
Education							
No education	0.0	14.4	70	*	0	*	10
Primary	2.9	15.9	2,475	44.4	72	44.0	393
Secondary	1.3	10.3	2,712	(52.5)	36	52.2	280
More than secondary	0.0	14.7	129	*	0	*	19
Total 15–24	2.0	13.0	5,386	47.1	108	47.4	702

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 13.16.2 Multiple sexual partners and higher-risk sexual intercourse in the last 12 months among young people: Men

Among all young men aged 15–24 years, percentage who had sexual intercourse with more than one sexual partner in the last 12 months and percentage who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them; among young men having more than one partner in the last 12 months, percentage reporting that a condom was used during last intercourse; and among young men who had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them, percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Men aged 15–24 years			Men aged 15–24 years who had 2+ partners in the last 12 months		Men aged 15–24 years who had intercourse in the last 12 months with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them	
	Percentage who had 2+ partners in the past 12 months	Percentage who had intercourse in the past 12 months with a person who neither was their wife nor lived with them	Number of men	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	Number of men	Percentage who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse with such a partner	Number of men
Age							
15–19	1.0	6.1	1,337	*	13	74.0	82
15–17	0.3	2.3	810	*	3	*	19
18–19	2.0	11.9	526	*	11	79.5	63
20–24	6.9	24.5	1,019	58.7	70	73.8	249
20–22	5.2	24.4	652	(63.6)	34	76.8	159
23–24	9.8	24.5	367	(54.2)	36	68.4	90
Marital status							
Never married	3.2	14.3	2,174	74.0	69	74.7	311
Ever married	7.8	11.1	182	*	14	*	20
Residence							
Urban	4.7	18.6	657	(81.4)	31	75.2	122
Rural	3.1	12.3	1,699	(52.1)	52	73.0	209
Education							
No education	(2.3)	(13.9)	51	*	1	*	7
Primary	3.8	15.1	1,302	(54.7)	50	69.7	197
Secondary	3.2	12.3	962	(74.6)	30	82.5	118
More than secondary	(4.2)	(20.8)	41	*	2	*	8
Total 15–24	3.5	14.0	2,356	63.0	83	73.8	331

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 13.17 Recent HIV tests among young people

Among young women and young men aged 15–24 years who have had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months, percentage who were tested for HIV in the last 12 months and received the results of the last test, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women aged 15–24 years who have had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months:		Men aged 15–24 years who have had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months:	
	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test	Number of women	Percentage who have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the results of the last test	Number of men
Age				
15–19	44.7	359	20.5	85
15–17	29.0	116	*	19
18–19	52.2	243	23.2	66
20–24	47.6	1,279	29.5	408
20–22	47.5	713	27.7	232
23–24	47.8	566	31.9	175
Marital status				
Never married	39.1	631	22.3	311
Ever married	52.0	1,008	37.7	182
Total 15–24	47.0	1,639	28.0	492

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Key Findings

- **HIV prevalence:** Overall, 2.2% of women and men aged 15–49 years in Rwanda are living with HIV; the prevalence is higher among women (2.8%) than men (1.5%).
- **HIV prevalence by residence:** HIV prevalence is nearly twice as high in urban areas (3.3%) as in rural areas (1.7%).
- **HIV prevalence by province:** HIV prevalence is highest in the City of Kigali (3.7%) and lowest in the Northern Province (1.0%).
- **HIV prevalence by male circumcision:** HIV prevalence is 1.2% among men who have been circumcised (by either traditional or medical practitioners) and 2.5% among men who have not been circumcised or do not know their circumcision status.

The 2025 RDHS included HIV serology testing to measure HIV prevalence among women aged 15–49 years and men aged 15–59 years. The specimen collection and HIV testing procedures are described in Chapter 1.

14.1 Coverage Rates for HIV Testing

HIV testing coverage rate

Percentage of women and men who were tested for HIV as part of the survey.

Sample: Women and men who are members of households selected for HIV testing and are within the eligible age range for HIV testing based on information collected in the Household Questionnaire.

The HIV testing coverage rate is calculated as follows:

Women and men aged 15–49 years who were interviewed and whose blood sample underwent the complete HIV testing algorithm with a final result of positive, negative, or inconclusive

All women and men aged 15–49 years in households selected for HIV testing

Ninety-nine percent of women and 97% of men aged 15–49 years who were eligible for HIV testing were interviewed, consented to participate in HIV testing, and provided a blood specimen that underwent the complete HIV testing algorithm in the National Reference Laboratory (**Table 14.1**). Less than 1% of women and men eligible for HIV testing refused to provide a blood specimen, and less than 1% were absent for blood collection after repeated attempts to contact them. Variations in response rates by residence and province are shown in **Table 14.1**, while **Table 14.2** presents variations by age, educational attainment, and household wealth.

Trends: Participation in survey HIV testing has remained consistently high across all RDHS surveys conducted since 2005. Among women, testing participation rates have ranged from 97% to 99%, while among men rates have ranged from 95% to 99%.

14.2 HIV Prevalence

14.2.1 HIV Prevalence by Age and Sex

HIV prevalence

Percentage of women and men who tested positive for HIV as part of the survey.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years tested for HIV as part of the survey

- **Table 14.3** shows that 2.2% (95% confidence interval: 1.9, 2.5) of the population aged 15–49 years in Rwanda is HIV positive.
- HIV prevalence is higher among women (2.8%) than among men (1.5%). Among both women and men, HIV prevalence generally increases with age (**Figure 14.1**).
- HIV prevalence is higher in urban areas (3.3%) than in rural areas (1.7%) (**Figure 14.2**). HIV prevalence is highest in the City of Kigali (3.7%) and lowest in the Northern Province (1.0%) (**Table 14.4**).
- HIV prevalence decreases with increasing educational attainment. For example, HIV prevalence is 4.9% among respondents with no education, 2.4% among those with a primary education, 1.6% among those with a secondary education, and 0.9% among those with more than a secondary education.

Figure 14.1 HIV prevalence by age

Percentage of women and men who are HIV positive

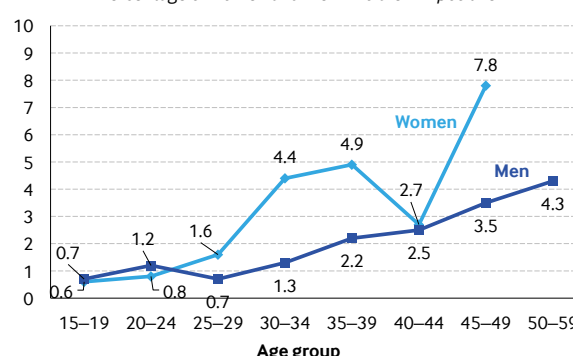
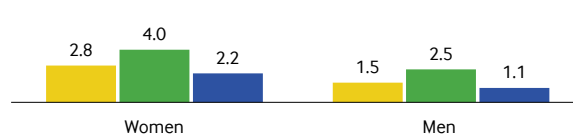


Figure 14.2 HIV prevalence by residence and sex

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who are HIV positive

■ Total ■ Urban ■ Rural



Trends: For women and men aged 15–49 years, HIV prevalence remained at 3.0% from 2005 to 2014–15 and then decreased to 2.7% in 2019–20 and 2.2% in 2025. The change between 2019–20 and 2025 is statistically significant. Among women aged 15–49, HIV prevalence decreased from 3.5% in 2019–20 to 2.8% in 2025. This change is also statistically significant. Among men aged 15–49, HIV prevalence decreased from 1.7% in 2019–20 to 1.5% in 2025, though this change is not statistically significant.

Patterns by demographic characteristics

- According to marital status, HIV prevalence is highest among women and men whose spouse or partner has died (10.9%), followed by those who are divorced or separated (7.3%). HIV prevalence is higher among those who are currently married or living together with a partner as if married (2.3%) than among those who have never been married (1.3%). Notably, 0.4% of women and men who report that they have never had sex are living with HIV (**Table 14.5**).

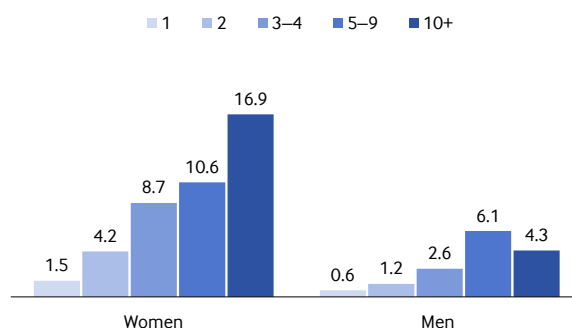
- HIV prevalence is higher among women in polygynous unions (6.5%) than among those in nonpolygynous unions (2.3%).
- 1.8% of pregnant women are living with HIV.

14.2.2 HIV Prevalence by Sexual Behaviour

- HIV prevalence among women increases with number of lifetime sexual partners, from 1.5% among those with one lifetime sexual partner to 16.9% among those with 10 or more partners. Among men, HIV prevalence increases from 0.6% among those with one lifetime sexual partner to 6.1% among those with five to nine partners and then drops to 4.3% among those with 10 or more partners (**Table 14.6** and **Figure 14.3**).

Figure 14.3 HIV prevalence by number of lifetime partners

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who ever had sex and are HIV positive



- HIV prevalence is higher among women who used a condom during their most recent intercourse (6.9%) than among those who did not (2.8%). Among men, HIV prevalence is also higher among those who used a condom during their most recent intercourse, although the difference is smaller (3.2% versus 1.8%).

14.2.3 HIV Prevalence among Young People

Overall, 0.8% of young women and men aged 15–24 years are HIV positive. HIV prevalence is slightly higher among young men than young women (0.9% versus 0.7%).

Patterns by background characteristics

- HIV prevalence among young people aged 15–24 years is highest in the City of Kigali (1.5%) and lowest in the Northern Province (0.4%).
- According to marital status, HIV prevalence among young women and men is 3.2% among those who are separated, divorced, or widowed; 1.0% among those who are married or living together; and 0.7% among those who have never been married (**Table 14.7**).

Patterns by sexual behaviour

- According to number of sexual partners in the 12 months preceding the survey, HIV prevalence among young women and men is highest among those who had two or more sexual partners (4.8%) and lowest among those with one partner (0.8%) (**Table 14.8**).

14.2.4 HIV Prevalence by Symptoms of Sexually Transmitted Infections and Prior HIV Testing

- HIV prevalence is higher among women and men aged 15–49 years who had a sexually transmitted infection (STI) or symptoms of an STI in the past 12 months than among those who did not (5.1% versus 2.4%).
- HIV prevalence is higher among women and men who have ever been tested for HIV than among those who have not (3.0% versus 1.0%) (**Table 14.9**).

14.2.5 Prior HIV Testing and Use of ART according to Current HIV Status

Diagnosing people living with HIV and linking them to care so that they can receive antiretroviral therapy (ART) are crucial interventions to fight the HIV epidemic. **Table 14.10** shows data on history of HIV testing and receipt of test results prior to the survey according to current HIV status, as well as information on current use of antiretroviral therapy (ART). It is important to note that in this table current HIV status is determined by the 2025 RDHS HIV test results, while data on prior HIV testing, the result of the most recent HIV test, and current use of ART are based on information reported by the respondent during the interview. Given that some HIV positive individuals may choose not to disclose this information during the interview, self-reported information on HIV test results and ART use should be interpreted with caution.

- Among respondents who are living with HIV, 73% of women and 46% of men reported that they had been tested for HIV before and that the result of their most recent test was positive. Nearly all respondents who reported being HIV positive said that they were currently taking ART.
- 4% of women and 11% of men living with HIV reported that they had never been tested for HIV.

14.2.6 HIV Prevalence by Male Circumcision Status

- HIV prevalence among men aged 15–49 years is lower among those who are circumcised (1.2%) than among those who are not circumcised or do not know their circumcision status (2.5%) (**Table 14.11**).
- HIV prevalence is higher among men who were circumcised by a traditional practitioner than among those who were circumcised by a medical professional (1.7% versus 1.1%) (**Table 14.11**).

14.2.7 HIV Prevalence among Couples

- In 96.9% of couples, both the man and woman are HIV negative, while in 1.3% of couples both partners are HIV positive.
- 1.8% of couples have discordant HIV status. In 1.1% of couples, the woman is HIV positive and the man is HIV negative, and in 0.7% of couples the man is HIV positive and the woman is HIV negative (**Table 14.12**).



List of Tables

For more information on HIV prevalence, see the following tables:

- **Table 14.1** Coverage of HIV testing by residence and province
- **Table 14.2** Coverage of HIV testing according to selected background characteristics
- **Table 14.3** HIV prevalence by age
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Table 14.1 Coverage of HIV testing by residence and province

Percentage distribution of women and men aged 15–49 years eligible for HIV testing by testing status, according to residence and province (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Residence and province	HIV test status								Total	Number
	DBS tested ¹		Refused to provide blood		Absent at the time of blood collection		Other ²			
	Inter-viewed	Not inter-viewed	Inter-viewed	Not inter-viewed	Inter-viewed	Not inter-viewed	Inter-viewed	Not inter-viewed		
WOMEN										
Residence										
Urban	97.7	0.0	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.3	100.0	2,698
Rural	99.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	100.0	4,533
Province										
City of Kigali	96.9	0.1	2.0	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1	100.0	889
Southern Province	98.6	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.6	100.0	1,754
Western Province	99.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.4	100.0	1,610
Northern Province	98.8	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1	100.0	1,118
Eastern Province	98.8	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.3	100.0	1,860
Total 15–49	98.6	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	100.0	7,231
MEN										
Residence										
Urban	95.1	0.1	1.1	0.7	0.6	1.5	0.1	0.9	100.0	2,196
Rural	98.5	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.0	0.4	100.0	3,797
Province										
City of Kigali	93.4	0.2	1.9	1.0	1.0	1.6	0.1	0.7	100.0	801
Southern Province	98.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.5	100.0	1,501
Western Province	97.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.5	100.0	1,230
Northern Province	97.1	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.6	1.0	0.1	0.4	100.0	943
Eastern Province	98.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.0	0.7	100.0	1,518
Total 15–49	97.3	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.1	0.6	100.0	5,993
50–59	98.4	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.3	100.0	674
Total 15–59	97.4	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.0	0.5	100.0	6,667
TOTAL (WOMEN AND MEN AGED 15–49 YEARS)										
Residence										
Urban	96.5	0.1	1.2	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.0	0.6	100.0	4,894
Rural	98.8	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.4	100.0	8,330
Province										
City of Kigali	95.2	0.2	2.0	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.1	0.4	100.0	1,690
Southern Province	98.4	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.5	100.0	3,255
Western Province	98.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.4	100.0	2,840
Northern Province	98.1	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.2	100.0	2,061
Eastern Province	98.5	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.5	100.0	3,378
Total 15–49	98.0	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.0	0.4	100.0	13,224

¹ Includes all dried blood spot (DBS) specimens tested at the lab and for which there is a final result, i.e., positive, negative, or inconclusive

² Includes (1) other results of blood collection (e.g., technical problem in the field), (2) lost specimens, (3) noncorresponding bar codes, and (4) lab results such as blood not tested for technical reason or not enough blood to complete the algorithm

Table 14.2 Coverage of HIV testing according to selected background characteristics

Percentage distribution of women and men aged 15–49 years eligible for HIV testing by testing status, according to selected background characteristics (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	HIV test status								Total	Number
	DBS tested ¹		Refused to provide blood		Absent at the time of blood collection		Other ²			
	Inter-viewed	Not inter-viewed	Inter-viewed	Not inter-viewed	Inter-viewed	Not inter-viewed	Inter-viewed	Not inter-viewed		
WOMEN										
Age										
15–19	98.3	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.5	100.0	1,504
20–24	98.5	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.0	0.2	100.0	1,253
25–29	98.6	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	100.0	1,009
30–34	98.4	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.3	100.0	930
35–39	98.6	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	100.0	997
40–44	99.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	100.0	849
45–49	98.8	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	100.0	689
Education										
No education	97.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	100.0	486
Primary	99.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.2	100.0	3,936
Secondary	98.3	0.0	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.1	100.0	2,450
More than secondary	95.3	0.0	3.6	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	359
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	99.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.4	100.0	1,311
Second	99.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.4	100.0	1,335
Middle	99.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	100.0	1,351
Fourth	98.6	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.2	100.0	1,462
Highest	97.1	0.1	1.9	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.3	100.0	1,772
Total	98.6	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	100.0	7,231
MEN										
Age										
15–19	97.8	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.9	0.0	0.4	100.0	1,378
20–24	97.5	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.7	100.0	1,028
25–29	95.7	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.4	1.8	0.0	1.0	100.0	765
30–34	96.3	0.0	1.0	0.3	0.5	1.3	0.1	0.5	100.0	787
35–39	97.9	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.3	100.0	770
40–44	98.2	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.5	100.0	759
45–49	96.8	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.8	100.0	506
Education										
No education	95.3	1.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	3.0	100.0	362
Primary	98.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.0	0.4	100.0	3,478
Secondary	97.4	0.0	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.5	100.0	1,766
More than secondary	91.2	0.0	2.6	1.3	1.6	2.3	0.5	0.5	100.0	386
Missing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	98.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.1	0.3	100.0	1,026
Second	98.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.6	100.0	1,032
Middle	98.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.0	0.5	100.0	1,162
Fourth	98.0	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.0	0.3	100.0	1,271
Highest	94.5	0.0	1.3	0.6	0.9	1.5	0.1	1.0	100.0	1,502
Total	97.3	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.1	0.6	100.0	5,993

¹ Includes all dried blood spot (DBS) specimens tested at the lab and for which there is a final result, i.e., positive, negative, or inconclusive

² Includes (1) other results of blood collection (e.g., technical problem in the field), (2) lost specimens, (3) noncorresponding bar codes, and (4) lab results such as blood not tested for technical reason or not enough blood to complete the algorithm

Table 14.3 HIV prevalence by age

Among de facto women aged 15–49 years and men aged 15–59 years who were interviewed and tested, percentage HIV positive, according to age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age	Women		Men		Total	
	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number
15–19	0.6	1,462	0.7	1,342	0.6	2,804
20–24	0.8	1,233	1.2	1,022	1.0	2,255
25–29	1.6	994	0.7	754	1.2	1,748
30–34	4.4	898	1.3	759	3.0	1,657
35–39	4.9	976	2.2	781	3.7	1,758
40–44	2.7	833	2.5	733	2.6	1,566
45–49	7.8	668	3.5	504	6.0	1,172
50–59	na	na	4.3	660	na	na
Total 15–49	2.8	7,063	1.5	5,896	2.2	12,959
Confidence interval	(2.4–3.2)		(1.1–1.9)		(1.9–2.5)	
Total 15–59	na	na	1.8	6,556	na	na
Confidence interval			(1.4–2.2)			

na = Not applicable

Table 14.4 HIV prevalence by socioeconomic characteristics

Percentage HIV positive among women and men aged 15–49 years who were tested, according to socioeconomic characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Socioeconomic characteristic	Women		Men		Total	
	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number
Religion						
Catholic	2.8	2,646	1.4	2,455	2.1	5,101
Protestant	2.8	3,334	1.5	2,380	2.3	5,714
Adventist	2.1	878	1.1	714	1.6	1,592
Muslim	4.2	102	3.6	142	3.9	244
Traditional	*	1	*	3	*	4
Jehovah	(1.6)	44	(0.0)	35	0.9	80
Other	*	2	*	0	*	2
No religion	11.6	55	3.3	166	5.4	222
Residence						
Urban	4.0	2,290	2.5	1,891	3.3	4,181
Rural	2.2	4,773	1.1	4,005	1.7	8,778
Province						
City of Kigali	4.5	1,132	2.7	1,021	3.7	2,153
Southern Province	3.0	1,541	1.4	1,318	2.3	2,858
Western Province	2.6	1,439	1.6	1,101	2.2	2,540
Northern Province	1.3	1,026	0.7	864	1.0	1,890
Eastern Province	2.5	1,926	1.3	1,593	2.0	3,518
Education						
No education	6.7	459	2.5	349	4.9	807
Primary	3.0	3,932	1.6	3,482	2.4	7,414
Secondary	1.8	2,350	1.4	1,741	1.6	4,091
More than secondary	1.2	323	0.5	324	0.9	647
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	4.3	1,275	2.0	1,002	3.3	2,277
Second	2.4	1,330	1.6	1,023	2.1	2,354
Middle	2.8	1,365	1.2	1,172	2.0	2,536
Fourth	2.2	1,443	1.2	1,287	1.7	2,730
Highest	2.5	1,651	1.6	1,411	2.1	3,062
Total 15–49	2.8	7,063	1.5	5,896	2.2	12,959
50–59	na	na	4.3	660	na	na
Total 15–59	na	na	1.8	6,556	na	na

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable



Table 14.5 HIV prevalence by demographic characteristics

Percentage HIV positive among women and men aged 15–49 years who were tested, according to demographic characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Demographic characteristic	Women		Men		Total	
	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number
Marital status						
Never married	1.5	2,713	1.0	2,771	1.3	5,484
Ever had sexual intercourse	3.4	1,015	1.7	1,222	2.5	2,236
Never had sexual intercourse	0.4	1,698	0.5	1,549	0.4	3,248
Married/living together	2.7	3,653	1.8	2,991	2.3	6,644
Divorced or separated	8.0	569	3.8	118	7.3	687
Widowed	10.4	128	*	16	10.9	144
Type of union						
In polygynous union	6.5	291	0.0	64	5.3	356
In nonpolygynous union	2.3	3,310	1.8	2,927	2.1	6,237
Not currently in union	2.9	3,410	1.2	2,905	2.1	6,315
Don't know/missing	6.6	52	*	0	6.6	52
Times slept away from home in past 12 months						
None	3.0	4,073	1.8	3,927	2.4	7,999
1–2	2.3	2,291	1.0	1,331	1.8	3,622
3–4	3.6	419	0.3	339	2.1	759
5+	2.6	280	2.1	299	2.3	579
Time away in past 12 months						
Away for more than 1 month at a time	1.8	576	1.0	540	1.4	1,117
Away only for less than 1 month at a time	2.7	2,414	1.1	1,429	2.1	3,843
Not away	3.0	4,073	1.8	3,927	2.4	7,999
Maternity status						
Pregnant	1.8	357	na	na	na	na
Not pregnant or not sure	2.8	6,706	na	na	na	na
ANC for last birth in the last 2 years¹						
ANC provided by the public sector	1.8	1,296	na	na	na	na
ANC provided by other than the public sector	(0.0)	43	na	na	na	na
No ANC/no birth in last 2 years	3.0	5,724	na	na	na	na
Total 15–49	2.8	7,063	1.5	5,896	2.2	12,959
50–59	na	na	4.3	660	na	na
Total 15–59	na	na	1.8	6,556	na	na

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

ANC = Antenatal care

¹ Includes the last live birth or stillbirth a women had in the last 2 years



Table 14.6 HIV prevalence by sexual behaviour

Percentage HIV positive among women and men aged 15–49 years who ever had sex and were tested for HIV, according to sexual behaviour characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Sexual behaviour characteristic	Women		Men		Total	
	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number
Age at first sexual intercourse						
<16	7.0	411	1.6	453	4.2	864
16–17	5.3	959	3.2	409	4.7	1,368
18–19	4.2	1,403	1.7	860	3.2	2,263
20+	2.0	2,560	1.7	2,588	1.9	5,149
Missing	(0.0)	31	(8.2)	36	4.5	67
Number of lifetime partners						
1	1.5	3,128	0.6	1,576	1.2	4,704
2	4.2	1,313	1.2	1,144	2.8	2,456
3–4	8.7	690	2.6	1,041	5.0	1,732
5–9	10.6	161	6.1	375	7.4	536
10+	16.9	71	4.3	202	7.6	273
Missing	*	0	*	9	*	9
Multiple sexual partners in last 12 months						
0	4.9	934	1.3	713	3.3	1,646
1	3.0	4,278	1.8	3,264	2.5	7,543
2+	11.5	152	4.0	370	6.2	522
Nonmarital, noncohabiting partners in last 12 months¹						
0	3.2	4,572	1.6	3,479	2.5	8,051
1	4.9	681	2.7	702	3.8	1,382
2+	11.3	111	4.4	166	7.2	277
Condom use at last sexual intercourse in last 12 months						
Used condom	6.9	477	3.2	602	4.8	1,079
Did not use condom	2.8	3,953	1.8	3,032	2.4	6,985
No sexual intercourse in last 12 months	4.9	934	1.3	713	3.3	1,646
Condom use at last sexual intercourse with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner in last 12 months¹						
Used condom	7.3	363	2.6	600	4.4	963
Did not use condom	4.6	429	3.9	268	4.3	697
No sexual intercourse with any nonmarital, noncohabiting partners in last 12 months	3.2	4,572	1.6	3,479	2.5	8,051
Total 15–49	3.6	5,364	1.9	4,347	2.8	9,711
50–59	na	na	4.3	656	na	na
Total 15–59	na	na	2.2	5,002	na	na

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

¹ Any partner who was not a spouse and did not live with the respondent



Table 14.7 HIV prevalence among young people by background characteristics

Percentage HIV positive among women and men aged 15–24 years who were tested for HIV, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women		Men		Total	
	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number
Age						
15–19	0.6	1,462	0.7	1,342	0.6	2,804
15–17	0.3	886	0.4	813	0.3	1,699
18–19	1.1	576	1.1	529	1.1	1,104
20–24	0.8	1,233	1.2	1,022	1.0	2,255
20–22	0.7	777	1.2	654	1.0	1,431
23–24	0.8	456	1.2	368	1.0	824
Marital status						
Never married	0.6	2,157	0.9	2,181	0.7	4,338
Ever had sex	1.3	606	1.5	762	1.4	1,369
Never had sex	0.3	1,550	0.5	1,419	0.4	2,969
Married/living together	0.7	471	1.6	178	1.0	649
Divorced/separated/ widowed	3.5	66	*	6	3.2	72
Maternity status						
Pregnant	0.4	106	na	na	na	na
Not pregnant or not sure	0.7	2,588	na	na	na	na
Residence						
Urban	1.1	898	1.7	663	1.3	1,561
Rural	0.5	1,796	0.6	1,701	0.5	3,497
Province						
City of Kigali	1.0	447	2.1	335	1.5	782
Southern Province	0.9	565	0.8	591	0.9	1,155
Western Province	0.3	526	1.0	429	0.6	955
Northern Province	0.2	381	0.6	342	0.4	722
Eastern Province	0.8	776	0.5	668	0.6	1,444
Education						
No education	(0.0)	36	(0.0)	50	0.0	86
Primary	0.6	1,232	0.8	1,309	0.7	2,541
Secondary	0.8	1,367	1.2	965	1.0	2,332
More than secondary	0.0	59	(1.1)	41	0.4	100
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	0.5	442	1.2	371	0.8	813
Second	0.8	504	0.5	428	0.6	932
Middle	0.7	512	0.2	496	0.4	1,009
Fourth	0.5	568	1.0	544	0.7	1,112
Highest	1.0	667	1.7	525	1.3	1,193
Total	0.7	2,694	0.9	2,364	0.8	5,058

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

Table 14.8 HIV prevalence among young people by sexual behaviour

Percentage HIV positive among women and men aged 15–24 years who have ever had sex and were tested for HIV, according to sexual behaviour, Rwanda DHS 2025

Sexual behaviour characteristic	Women		Men		Total	
	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number
Multiple sexual partners in last 12 months						
0	1.7	304	1.1	450	1.4	754
1	0.7	775	1.1	411	0.8	1,186
2+	3.9	64	5.5	85	4.8	149
Nonmarital, noncohabiting partners in last 12 months¹						
0	1.1	771	1.2	613	1.2	1,384
1	1.1	328	0.8	260	1.0	589
2+	(2.9)	45	6.1	72	4.9	117
Condom use at last sexual intercourse with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner in last 12 months¹						
Used condom	1.2	190	2.2	246	1.8	437
Did not use condom	1.4	183	1.3	86	1.3	269
No sexual intercourse with any nonmarital, noncohabiting partners in last 12 months	1.1	771	1.2	613	1.2	1,384
Total	1.2	1,144	1.5	946	1.3	2,089

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Any partner who was not a spouse and did not live with the respondent

Table 14.9 HIV prevalence by other characteristics

Percentage HIV positive among women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever had sex and were tested for HIV, according to whether they had a sexually transmitted infection (STI) in the last 12 months and prior testing for HIV, Rwanda DHS 2025

Characteristic	Women		Men		Total	
	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number
Sexually transmitted infection in last 12 months						
Had STI or STI symptoms	5.5	1,136	3.6	366	5.1	1,501
No STI, no symptoms	3.0	4,226	1.7	3,976	2.4	8,202
Don't know/missing	*	2	*	5	*	7
Prior HIV testing						
Ever tested	3.7	5,085	2.0	3,821	3.0	8,905
Never tested	0.9	274	1.1	526	1.0	800
Missing	*	5	*	0	*	5
Total	3.6	5,364	1.9	4,347	2.8	9,711

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 14.10 Prior HIV testing by current HIV status

Percentage distribution of women and men aged 15–49 years who tested HIV positive and who tested HIV negative according to history of HIV testing prior to the survey, and self-reported HIV test result and treatment status, Rwanda DHS 2025

HIV testing prior to the survey	Women		Men		Total	
	HIV positive	HIV negative	HIV positive	HIV negative	HIV positive	HIV negative
Ever tested for HIV and received the result of the most recent test	96.5	76.2	86.5	70.8	93.4	73.7
HIV positive	73.4	0.1	46.1	0.1	64.9	0.1
Currently taking ART	70.7	0.1	43.7	0.1	62.2	0.1
HIV positive and not currently taking ART	2.7	0.0	2.4	0.0	2.6	0.0
HIV negative	23.1	75.9	40.4	70.6	28.5	73.5
HIV test result indeterminate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Declined to report HIV test result	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ever tested for HIV and did not receive the result of the most recent test	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Not previously tested	3.5	22.1	11.2	28.3	5.9	24.9
Missing	0.0	1.7	2.3	0.9	0.7	1.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	197	6,866	90	5,806	287	12,673

ART = Antiretroviral treatment



Table 14.11 HIV prevalence by male circumcision

Among men aged 15–49 years who were tested for HIV, percentage HIV positive by whether they were traditionally or medically circumcised or not circumcised, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Traditionally or medically circumcised ¹		Traditionally circumcised only		Medically circumcised only		Not circumcised or don't know circumcision status	
	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number	Percentage HIV positive	Number
Age								
15–19	0.6	1,158	*	8	0.6	1,146	1.1	185
20–24	1.1	921	*	8	1.1	909	2.1	102
25–29	0.6	609	*	17	0.6	592	1.3	145
30–34	0.8	553	*	17	0.8	533	2.5	206
35–39	1.3	461	*	17	1.4	444	3.5	320
40–44	2.3	320	*	16	2.1	301	2.5	412
45–49	4.6	210	*	13	5.1	193	2.7	294
Religion								
Catholic	0.8	1,705	(0.0)	29	0.8	1,672	2.9	751
Protestant	1.3	1,716	(0.0)	38	1.3	1,667	2.1	664
Adventist	1.0	538	*	11	1.0	526	1.2	176
Muslim	2.9	136	*	15	2.8	118	*	6
Traditional	*	3	*	0	*	3	*	0
Jehovah	*	21	*	0	*	21	*	14
No religion	3.8	114	*	3	3.0	111	(2.1)	53
Residence								
Urban	2.2	1,541	(4.2)	39	2.2	1,493	3.4	350
Rural	0.5	2,691	0.0	58	0.6	2,625	2.2	1,314
Province								
City of Kigali	2.6	830	*	15	2.7	807	3.2	191
Southern Province	0.8	872	*	10	0.7	856	2.6	446
Western Province	0.9	784	(0.0)	36	0.9	746	3.3	317
Northern Province	0.4	566	*	2	0.4	563	1.2	298
Eastern Province	1.0	1,181	(3.1)	34	0.9	1,146	2.2	411
Education								
No education	0.3	155	*	11	0.3	141	4.2	194
Primary	1.3	2,221	3.0	54	1.2	2,158	2.2	1,261
Secondary	1.2	1,563	*	22	1.2	1,539	2.8	177
More than secondary	0.5	293	*	8	0.6	281	(0.0)	31
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	0.9	559	*	16	1.0	538	3.4	443
Second	0.7	662	*	18	0.7	643	3.3	361
Middle	0.5	810	*	16	0.4	791	2.8	362
Fourth	1.4	988	*	23	1.3	961	0.5	299
Highest	1.8	1,214	(0.0)	22	1.8	1,185	1.0	197
Total 15–49	1.2	4,233	1.7	96	1.1	4,118	2.5	1,663
50–59	5.1	173	*	13	5.0	155	4.0	486
Total 15–59	1.3	4,406	2.4	109	1.3	4,273	2.8	2,150

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ This column includes all men who are circumcised—those who are medically circumcised only, those who are traditionally circumcised only, those who are both medically and traditionally circumcised, and men who are circumcised but unsure what type. Data for the last two groups of circumcised men are not shown separately due to small case numbers.

Table 14.12 HIV prevalence among couples

Percentage distribution of couples living in the same household, both of whom were tested for HIV, by HIV status, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Both HIV positive	Man HIV positive, woman HIV negative	Woman HIV positive, man HIV negative	Both HIV negative	Total	Number
Woman's age						
15–19	(0.0)	(2.2)	(0.0)	(97.8)	100.0	46
20–29	0.7	0.3	0.4	98.6	100.0	902
30–39	1.7	0.7	1.7	95.9	100.0	1,213
40–49	1.4	1.2	1.2	96.2	100.0	886
Man's age						
15–19	*	*	*	*	100.0	3
20–29	0.4	0.5	0.6	98.5	100.0	537
30–39	1.3	0.6	1.3	96.9	100.0	1,180
40–49	1.3	1.0	1.3	96.4	100.0	1,015
50–59	2.5	1.0	1.1	95.4	100.0	312
Age difference between partners						
Woman older	1.6	1.1	1.6	95.6	100.0	549
Same age/man older by 0–4 years	1.1	0.7	1.0	97.2	100.0	1,378
Man older by 5–9 years	0.9	0.5	0.6	98.0	100.0	742
Man older by 10–14 years	2.0	0.5	1.6	95.8	100.0	263
Man older by 15+ years	2.6	1.2	2.9	93.3	100.0	116
Type of union						
Nonpolygynous	1.1	0.7	0.9	97.3	100.0	2,816
Polygynous	3.1	1.4	3.6	91.9	100.0	199
Don't know/missing	(3.3)	(3.6)	(3.5)	(89.7)	100.0	32
Multiple partners in last 12 months¹						
Both no	1.2	0.7	1.0	97.2	100.0	2,798
Man yes, woman no	1.9	1.4	2.7	94.0	100.0	218
Woman yes, man no	(4.0)	(0.0)	(7.9)	(88.2)	100.0	29
Both yes	*	*	*	*	100.0	2
Residence						
Urban	1.8	1.3	1.8	95.1	100.0	869
Rural	1.0	0.5	0.9	97.6	100.0	2,177
Province						
City of Kigali	2.1	1.1	1.6	95.2	100.0	443
Southern Province	1.6	0.5	1.0	96.9	100.0	634
Western Province	1.3	1.0	1.4	96.3	100.0	635
Northern Province	0.5	0.2	0.6	98.7	100.0	504
Eastern Province	1.0	0.8	1.2	97.0	100.0	831
Woman's education						
No education	2.1	0.0	2.9	94.9	100.0	244
Primary	1.4	1.1	0.9	96.7	100.0	1,958
Secondary	0.6	0.1	1.4	97.8	100.0	709
More than secondary	1.4	0.0	0.7	97.8	100.0	135
Man's education						
No education	2.8	1.0	2.0	94.2	100.0	271
Primary	1.2	0.7	1.0	97.1	100.0	2,091
Secondary	0.9	1.1	1.5	96.5	100.0	529
More than secondary	0.0	0.0	0.3	99.7	100.0	156
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	2.2	1.0	1.6	95.3	100.0	578
Second	1.0	1.1	0.8	97.1	100.0	593
Middle	1.4	0.3	0.4	97.9	100.0	641
Fourth	1.1	0.4	1.6	96.9	100.0	638
Highest	0.7	0.9	1.4	96.9	100.0	598
Total	1.3	0.7	1.1	96.9	100.0	3,047

Note: Table is based on couples for which a valid test result (positive or negative) is available for both partners. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ A respondent is considered to have had multiple sexual partners in the last 12 months if he or she had sexual intercourse with 2 or more people during this time period. (Respondents with multiple partners include polygynous men who had sexual intercourse with 2 or more wives.)



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Key Findings

- **Control over men's earnings:** 31% of currently married women reported that their husband mainly decides how his cash earnings are used, while 65% reported that they make joint decisions with their husband on the use of his earnings.
- **House ownership:** 5% of women own a house alone and 36% own a house jointly with their husband or someone else. Among men, 9% own a house alone and 30% own a house jointly with their wife or someone else.
- **Participation in decision making:** 74% of women make decisions on their own health care either alone or jointly with their husband. Among men, 97% make decisions regarding their health care either alone or jointly with their wife.
- **Negotiating sexual relations:** 75% of currently married women can say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual relations, and 74% can ask their husband to use a condom.

This chapter explores women's empowerment in terms of control over earnings, asset ownership (including houses, land, and mobile phones), and use of bank accounts and mobile-money-service providers. In addition, responses to specific questions are used to define three different indicators of women's empowerment: women's participation in household decision making, women's attitudes toward wife beating, and women's participation in decision making regarding sexual and reproductive health.

15.1 Control over Men's Earnings

Control over men's own cash earnings

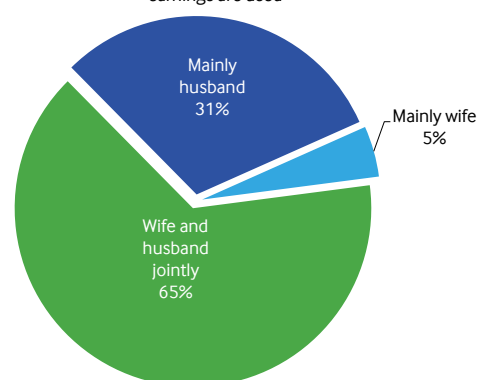
Respondents are considered to have control over their husband's earnings if they participate in decisions alone or jointly with their husband about how his earnings will be used.

Sample: Currently married women aged 15–49 years whose husbands received cash earnings for employment during the 12 months before the survey

Among currently married women whose husbands received cash earnings in the 12 months preceding the survey, 65% reported that they make joint decisions with their husband on how his cash earnings are used, 31% reported that their husband mainly makes these decisions, and 5% said that they are the main decision maker regarding the use of their husband's cash earnings (**Table 15.1** and **Figure 15.1**).

Figure 15.1 Control over men's cash earnings

Percentage distribution of currently married women aged 15–49 years by person who decides how husband's cash earnings are used



Note: Figures do not add to 100% due to rounding

15.2 Women's and Men's Ownership of Assets

Ownership and control over assets such as land and housing provide both direct and indirect benefits to individuals and households, including a secure place to live, a means of livelihood, protection during emergencies, and collateral for credit that can be used for investment or consumption (Doss et al. 2008). The 2025 RDHS collected information on women's and men's ownership of two high-value assets: land and a house.

15.2.1 Ownership of a House or Land and Documentation of Ownership

Ownership of a house or land

Respondents who own a house or land, whether alone or jointly with their spouse, someone else, or both their spouse and someone else.

Documentation of ownership of a house or land

Respondents whose name is on the title deed or other government-recognized document.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

Overall, 5% of women own a house alone, and 35% own a house jointly with their husband only. Among men, 9% own a house alone and 28% own a house jointly with their wife only. Four percent of women own land alone, while 20% own land jointly with their husband only. Among men, 8% own land alone and 17% own land jointly with their wife only. Around 6 in 10 women (59%) and men (61%) do not own a house. Around 3 in 4 women (74%) and men (73%) do not own land (**Table 15.2.1** and **Table 15.2.2**).

Among respondents who own a house, 43% of women and 41% of men have their name on the title deed or other government-recognized document, while 10% of women and 6% of men do not have their name on the title deed. Forty-six percent of women and 54% of men do not have a title deed for their home (**Table 15.3.1** and **Table 15.3.2**).

Overall, 49% of women who own land have their name on the title deed, while 8% do not have their name on the title deed and 42% do not have a title deed. Among men who own land, 47% have their name on the title deed, 5% do not have their name on the title deed, and 48% do not have a title deed (**Table 15.4.1** and **Table 15.4.2**).

15.2.2 Ownership and Use of Mobile Phones and Bank Accounts

Use of bank accounts or mobile-money-service providers

Respondents who have and use a bank account or who used a mobile phone for financial transactions in the 12 months before the survey.

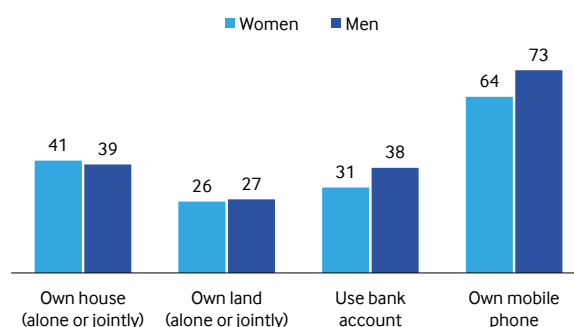
Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

Among individuals aged 15–49 years, 64% of women and 73% of men own a mobile phone, while 28% of women and 35% of men own a smartphone. Fifty-seven percent of women and 71% of men used a mobile phone for financial transactions in the 12 months before the survey. Overall, 63% of women and 74% of men used either a bank account or a mobile phone for financial transactions in the last 12 months (Tables 15.5.1 and 15.5.2 and Figure 15.2).

House and land ownership among women and men are about the same. Meanwhile, use of bank accounts and ownership of mobile phones and smartphones are more common among men than among women (Figure 15.2).

Figure 15.2 Ownership of assets

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years by ownership of specific items



15.3 Participation in Decision Making

Participation in major household decisions

Women are considered to participate in household decisions if they make decisions alone or jointly with their husband in all three of the following areas: (1) their own health care, (2) major household purchases, and (3) visits to their family or relatives.

Sample: Currently married women aged 15–49 years

Men are considered to participate in household decisions if they make decisions alone or jointly with their wife in both of the following areas: (1) their own health care and (2) major household purchases.

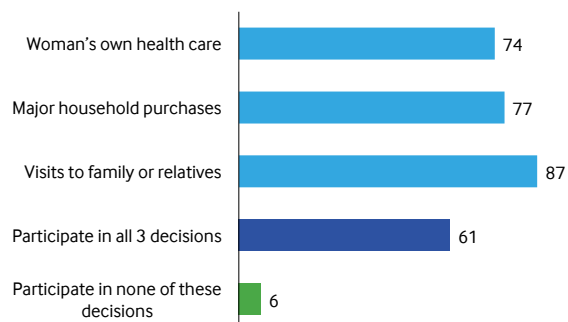
Sample: Currently married men aged 15–49 years

Seventy-four percent of women participate in making decisions on their own health care either alone or jointly with their husband. Among men, 97% make decisions on their health care either alone or jointly with their wife. Only 3% of men report that the main decisionmaker on their health care is their wife, while 26% of women report that the main decisionmaker on their health care is their husband (Table 15.6).

Among currently married women, 61% report taking part in all three specified decisions, while 6% do not participate in any of the decisions (Table 15.7.1 and Figure 15.3). Among men, 91% participate in both of the specified decisions and 2% do not participate in either decision (Table 15.7.2). Men are more likely to make decisions about major household purchases than women (93% and 77%, respectively).

Figure 15.3 Women's participation in decision making

Percentage of currently married women aged 15–49 years participating in specific decisions



15.4 Attitudes toward Wife Beating

Attitudes toward wife beating

Respondents are asked if they agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife under each of the following five circumstances: she burns the food, she argues with him, she goes out without telling him, she neglects the children, and she refuses to have sex with him. If respondents answer “yes” in at least one circumstance, they are considered to have attitudes justifying wife beating. In the 2025 RDHS, two more reasons were added: she had sex with someone else and she looked in his phone.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

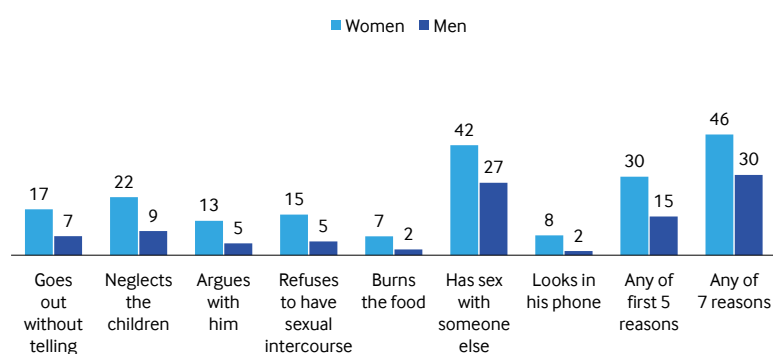
Among respondents aged 15–49 years, 30% of women and 15% of men agree with at least one of the first five reasons specified above that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife. Overall, 46% of women and 30% of men agree with at least one of the seven specified reasons that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife (Tables 15.8.1 and 15.8.2 and Figure 15.4).

Trends: The percentage of women who agree with at least one of the five

reasons justifying wife beating declined from 50% in 2019–20 to 30% in 2025. There was a smaller decline among men, from 18% in 2019–20 to 15% in 2025.

Figure 15.4 Attitudes towards wife beating

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who agree that a husband is justified in beating his wife for specific reasons



15.5 Negotiating Sexual Relations

To assess attitudes toward a wife’s right to negotiate safer sexual relations with her husband, women and men were asked whether they thought that a wife is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband if she knows he has sexual relations with other women and whether she is justified in asking him to use a condom if she knows he has a sexually transmitted infection (STI).

Sixty-nine percent of women and 79% of men believe that a woman is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband if she knows he has sex with other women, and 85% of women and 91% of men believe that a woman is justified in asking her husband to use a condom if she knows that he has an STI (Table 15.9).

To assess the ability of women to actually negotiate safer sexual relations with their husbands, women were asked whether they could say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual intercourse and whether they could ask their husband to use a condom.

Seventy-five percent of women can say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual intercourse, and 74% can ask their husband to use a condom (Table 15.10).

15.6 Women's Participation in Decision Making regarding Sexual and Reproductive Health

Informed decision making on sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive health

Women are considered to make their own informed decisions on sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive health if (1) they can say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual intercourse, (2) they make decisions about use of family planning alone or jointly with their husband, and (3) they make decisions about their own health care alone or jointly with their husband.

Sample: Currently married women aged 15–49 years

Fifty-three percent of currently married women aged 15–49 years make their own informed decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive health care (**Table 15.11**).

List of Tables

For more information on women's empowerment, see the following tables:

- **Table 15.1** Control over men's cash earnings
- **Table 15.2.1** House and land ownership: Women
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- **Table 15.3.1** House ownership and documentation of ownership: Women
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- **Table 15.5.1** Ownership and use of mobile phones and bank accounts: Women
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- **Table 15.6** Participation in decision making
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- **Table 15.10** Ability to negotiate sexual relations with husband
- **Table 15.11** Women's participation in decision making regarding sexual and reproductive health



Table 15.1 Control over men's cash earnings

Percentage distribution of currently married women aged 15–49 years whose husbands receive cash earnings by person who decides how husband's cash earnings are used, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Person who decides how husband's cash earnings are used:				Total	Number of women
	Mainly wife	Wife and husband jointly	Mainly husband	Other		
Age						
15–19	6.0	61.6	32.4	0.0	100.0	90
20–24	2.4	65.9	31.7	0.0	100.0	800
25–29	3.7	68.1	28.2	0.0	100.0	1,254
30–34	5.4	66.6	28.0	0.0	100.0	1,369
35–39	4.7	63.6	31.7	0.0	100.0	1,411
40–44	4.9	61.0	34.1	0.0	100.0	1,258
45–49	6.1	62.7	31.1	0.2	100.0	918
Number of living children						
0	4.0	74.0	22.0	0.0	100.0	345
1–2	3.6	67.0	29.3	0.0	100.0	2,987
3–4	5.7	61.4	32.8	0.1	100.0	2,479
5+	5.1	62.8	32.1	0.0	100.0	1,290
Residence						
Urban	5.4	65.9	28.7	0.0	100.0	2,064
Rural	4.3	64.1	31.5	0.0	100.0	5,036
Province						
City of Kigali	6.0	67.7	26.3	0.0	100.0	968
Southern Province	5.5	61.0	33.6	0.0	100.0	1,513
Western Province	3.4	70.2	26.4	0.0	100.0	1,484
Northern Province	2.9	68.4	28.7	0.0	100.0	1,157
Eastern Province	5.2	59.6	35.1	0.1	100.0	1,979
Education						
No education	6.5	62.0	31.5	0.0	100.0	578
Primary	5.1	61.7	33.1	0.0	100.0	4,395
Secondary	2.8	71.0	26.2	0.0	100.0	1,786
More than secondary	4.6	73.8	21.6	0.0	100.0	342
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	5.9	54.4	39.8	0.0	100.0	1,346
Second	5.8	63.0	31.3	0.0	100.0	1,402
Middle	3.1	67.7	29.1	0.1	100.0	1,432
Fourth	3.8	66.9	29.3	0.0	100.0	1,471
Highest	4.8	70.5	24.7	0.0	100.0	1,449
Total	4.6	64.6	30.7	0.0	100.0	7,100

Note: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married.

Table 15.2.1 House and land ownership: Women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years by house ownership status and land ownership status, according to current marital status, Rwanda DHS 2025

Ownership status	Marital status				Total
	Never married	Married/ living together	Divorced/ separated	Widowed	
HOUSE OWNERSHIP					
Alone	2.0	1.6	22.0	71.6	4.6
Jointly with husband only	na	65.5	7.2	0.1	34.5
Jointly with someone else only	0.8	0.5	3.4	3.4	0.9
Jointly with husband and someone else	na	1.1	0.1	0.4	0.6
Both alone and jointly	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Does not own	97.2	31.3	67.3	24.5	59.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	5,505	7,410	1,097	272	14,283
LAND OWNERSHIP					
Alone	3.0	2.6	14.4	44.4	4.4
Jointly with husband only	na	38.1	4.5	0.7	20.1
Jointly with someone else only	1.0	0.5	2.5	2.0	0.9
Jointly with husband and someone else	na	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.4
Both alone and jointly	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0
Does not own	96.0	58.0	78.3	52.1	74.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	5,505	7,410	1,097	272	14,283

Note: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married.
na = Not applicable

Table 15.2.2 House and land ownership: Men

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years by house ownership status and land ownership status, according to current marital status, Rwanda DHS 2025

Ownership status	Marital status				Total
	Never married	Married/ living together	Divorced/ separated	Widowed	
HOUSE OWNERSHIP					
Alone	3.8	12.2	39.2	*	8.9
Jointly with wife only	na	55.3	8.1	*	28.2
Jointly with someone else only	0.6	1.0	0.9	*	0.8
Jointly with wife and someone else	na	2.4	0.0	*	1.3
Both alone and jointly	0.0	0.0	0.0	*	0.0
Does not own	95.6	29.0	51.8	*	60.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of men	2,772	2,983	120	16	5,891
LAND OWNERSHIP					
Alone	7.8	8.1	22.5	*	8.3
Jointly with wife only	na	32.6	7.0	*	16.6
Jointly with someone else only	1.3	1.0	1.8	*	1.2
Jointly with wife and someone else	na	1.0	0.0	*	0.5
Does not own	90.9	57.4	68.7	*	73.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of men	2,772	2,983	120	16	5,891

Note: The term wife includes a partner with whom a man is living as if married. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.
na = Not applicable

Table 15.3.1 House ownership and documentation of ownership: Women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years by ownership of a house, and among women who own a house, percentage distribution by whether the house owned has a title deed and whether or not the woman's name appears on the title deed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who own a house:				Total	Number of women	House has a title deed ¹ :			Don't know ³	Total	Number of women who own a house ⁴
	Alone	Jointly ²	Both alone and jointly	Percent-age who do not own a house			Woman's name is on title deed ¹	Woman's name is not on title deed ¹	Does not have a title deed ¹			
Age												
15–19	0.1	1.2	0.0	98.7	100.0	2,897	(0.0)	(29.9)	(70.1)	(0.0)	100.0	37
20–24	0.6	13.8	0.0	85.6	100.0	2,489	8.2	13.9	75.8	2.2	100.0	358
25–29	1.2	36.0	0.0	62.8	100.0	2,032	18.8	12.4	67.6	1.2	100.0	756
30–34	3.5	49.0	0.1	47.4	100.0	1,879	25.5	13.7	60.0	0.8	100.0	988
35–39	6.1	58.1	0.0	35.8	100.0	1,911	46.3	11.4	41.7	0.6	100.0	1,227
40–44	11.8	65.9	0.0	22.4	100.0	1,730	57.7	7.2	34.1	1.0	100.0	1,343
45–49	17.4	64.2	0.0	18.5	100.0	1,344	66.7	4.5	28.1	0.7	100.0	1,096
Residence												
Urban	3.2	23.0	0.0	73.8	100.0	4,570	57.8	11.1	30.6	0.4	100.0	1,197
Rural	5.3	42.1	0.0	52.6	100.0	9,713	39.2	9.6	50.2	1.0	100.0	4,609
Province												
City of Kigali	2.6	17.7	0.0	79.6	100.0	2,290	60.9	12.0	27.0	0.0	100.0	467
Southern Province	4.6	38.3	0.0	57.1	100.0	3,087	39.1	10.9	48.7	1.3	100.0	1,324
Western Province	5.3	40.1	0.0	54.6	100.0	2,949	45.4	7.7	46.4	0.6	100.0	1,340
Northern Province	5.1	45.1	0.0	49.9	100.0	2,089	41.6	9.4	47.7	1.3	100.0	1,048
Eastern Province	5.1	37.0	0.0	57.9	100.0	3,868	40.1	10.8	48.4	0.8	100.0	1,627
Education												
No education	12.4	52.2	0.0	35.5	100.0	929	47.6	8.7	42.6	1.0	100.0	600
Primary	5.9	41.8	0.0	52.2	100.0	7,938	42.3	9.0	47.9	0.9	100.0	3,793
Secondary	1.3	23.6	0.0	75.2	100.0	4,765	36.0	14.0	48.9	1.2	100.0	1,183
More than secondary	2.5	32.7	0.0	64.7	100.0	651	80.1	8.7	11.3	0.0	100.0	229
Wealth quintile												
Lowest	8.5	34.6	0.0	57.0	100.0	2,642	23.7	7.7	67.6	1.0	100.0	1,137
Second	6.4	42.4	0.0	51.3	100.0	2,738	34.5	10.0	54.5	1.0	100.0	1,334
Middle	4.3	41.7	0.0	53.9	100.0	2,746	41.7	9.9	47.2	1.1	100.0	1,265
Fourth	2.6	34.6	0.0	62.8	100.0	2,885	50.0	10.9	38.2	0.9	100.0	1,074
Highest	2.2	28.2	0.0	69.6	100.0	3,272	70.7	11.5	17.4	0.4	100.0	995
Total	4.6	36.0	0.0	59.4	100.0	14,283	43.0	9.9	46.1	0.9	100.0	5,805

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Title deed or other government-recognized document

² Jointly with husband, someone else, or both husband and someone else

³ Includes women who have a house with a title deed or other government-recognized document, but they do not know if their name is on it, and women who do not know if there is a title deed or other government-recognized document for the house

⁴ Includes women who own a house alone, jointly with their husband only, jointly with someone else only, jointly with their husband and someone else, or both alone and jointly

Table 15.3.2 House ownership and documentation of ownership: Men

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years by ownership of a house; and among men who own a house, percentage distribution by whether the house owned has a title deed and whether or not the man's name appears on the title deed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who own a house:				Total	Number of men	House has a title deed ¹ :				Total	Number of men who own a house ⁴	
	Alone	Jointly ²	Both alone and jointly	Percentage who do not own a house			Man's name is on title deed ¹	Man's name is not on title deed ¹	Does not have a title deed ¹	Don't know ³			
Age													
15–19	0.2	0.3	0.0	99.5	100.0	1,337	*	*	*	*	100.0	7	
20–24	7.2	4.0	0.0	88.8	100.0	1,019	8.2	6.2	84.5	1.1	100.0	114	
25–29	10.5	27.2	0.0	62.3	100.0	754	11.8	7.7	80.5	0.0	100.0	284	
30–34	15.7	38.5	0.0	45.8	100.0	766	18.7	7.9	73.4	0.0	100.0	415	
35–39	13.5	55.3	0.0	31.2	100.0	779	42.8	5.7	51.3	0.2	100.0	536	
40–44	12.2	60.3	0.1	27.4	100.0	731	58.9	4.9	36.2	0.0	100.0	530	
45–49	10.8	72.5	0.0	16.7	100.0	505	64.4	3.6	31.9	0.0	100.0	421	
Residence													
Urban	6.3	19.3	0.0	74.4	100.0	1,889	53.9	6.3	39.6	0.2	100.0	484	
Rural	10.2	35.4	0.0	54.4	100.0	4,002	36.9	5.7	57.3	0.1	100.0	1,824	
Province													
City of Kigali	7.6	15.3	0.0	77.1	100.0	1,020	52.1	3.6	44.3	0.0	100.0	234	
Southern Province	6.2	33.3	0.0	60.5	100.0	1,317	34.4	7.0	58.6	0.0	100.0	521	
Western Province	10.4	35.5	0.0	54.0	100.0	1,100	39.3	8.0	52.5	0.2	100.0	506	
Northern Province	12.4	37.1	0.0	50.5	100.0	862	43.8	1.3	54.6	0.2	100.0	427	
Eastern Province	9.1	29.9	0.0	61.0	100.0	1,591	39.8	7.1	53.2	0.0	100.0	620	
Education													
No education	13.7	47.1	0.0	39.2	100.0	347	36.9	6.5	56.6	0.0	100.0	211	
Primary	10.1	35.6	0.0	54.3	100.0	3,469	40.8	5.4	53.8	0.1	100.0	1,587	
Secondary	5.9	16.8	0.0	77.3	100.0	1,741	32.0	8.0	59.8	0.2	100.0	395	
More than secondary	7.3	27.3	0.0	65.4	100.0	334	71.3	4.0	24.7	0.0	100.0	116	
Wealth quintile													
Lowest	13.7	30.3	0.0	55.9	100.0	1,003	21.7	5.4	72.6	0.3	100.0	442	
Second	11.5	37.3	0.0	51.2	100.0	1,021	30.4	5.2	64.3	0.0	100.0	498	
Middle	9.1	33.6	0.0	57.3	100.0	1,167	36.2	5.6	58.2	0.0	100.0	499	
Fourth	6.4	29.5	0.0	64.1	100.0	1,281	50.4	7.6	41.8	0.2	100.0	460	
Highest	5.8	23.0	0.0	71.2	100.0	1,419	67.0	5.3	27.7	0.0	100.0	409	
Total 15–49	8.9	30.3	0.0	60.8	100.0	5,891	40.5	5.8	53.6	0.1	100.0	2,308	
50–59	11.0	75.0	0.2	13.8	100.0	657	74.2	3.0	22.7	0.0	100.0	566	
Total 15–59	9.1	34.7	0.0	56.1	100.0	6,548	47.1	5.3	47.5	0.1	100.0	2,874	

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Title deed or other government-recognized document

² Jointly with wife, someone else, or both wife and someone else

³ Includes men who have a house with a title deed or other government-recognized document, but they do not know if their name is on it, and men who do not know if there is a title deed or other government-recognized document for the house

⁴ Includes men who own a house alone, jointly with their wife only, jointly with someone else only, jointly with their wife and someone else, or both alone and jointly

Table 15.4.1 Land ownership and documentation of ownership: Women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years by ownership of land; and among women who own land, percentage distribution by whether the land owned has a title deed and whether or not the woman's name appears on the title deed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who own land:					Number of women	Land has a title deed ¹ :				Total	Number of women who own land ⁴
	Alone	Jointly ²	Both alone and jointly	Percent-age who do not own land	Woman's name is on title deed ¹		Woman's name is not on title deed ¹	Does not have a title deed ¹	Don't know ³			
Age												
15–19	1.2	0.9	0.0	97.9	100.0	2,897	17.6	12.5	69.9	0.0	100.0	61
20–24	2.3	7.1	0.0	90.6	100.0	2,489	10.4	11.6	77.0	1.0	100.0	234
25–29	3.6	17.3	0.0	79.1	100.0	2,032	28.0	9.5	62.0	0.5	100.0	425
30–34	3.3	25.4	0.1	71.1	100.0	1,879	28.3	14.2	56.5	1.0	100.0	543
35–39	4.5	34.6	0.1	60.8	100.0	1,911	52.0	8.6	39.0	0.4	100.0	749
40–44	7.8	43.5	0.0	48.7	100.0	1,730	61.7	4.9	32.4	1.1	100.0	887
45–49	13.7	46.0	0.1	40.3	100.0	1,344	73.0	5.3	21.4	0.4	100.0	803
Residence												
Urban	3.2	11.1	0.0	85.7	100.0	4,570	59.9	8.9	30.9	0.3	100.0	654
Rural	5.0	26.3	0.1	68.6	100.0	9,713	47.2	8.0	44.0	0.8	100.0	3,048
Province												
City of Kigali	3.1	7.4	0.0	89.5	100.0	2,290	60.2	10.4	29.4	0.0	100.0	240
Southern Province	4.3	22.8	0.0	72.9	100.0	3,087	43.9	9.4	45.9	0.8	100.0	838
Western Province	3.7	25.2	0.2	70.9	100.0	2,949	54.7	6.2	38.8	0.4	100.0	857
Northern Province	5.1	30.8	0.0	64.1	100.0	2,089	51.2	7.8	39.8	1.1	100.0	750
Eastern Province	5.5	20.8	0.0	73.7	100.0	3,868	45.8	8.6	45.0	0.6	100.0	1,018
Education												
No education	8.2	32.2	0.1	59.5	100.0	929	53.8	10.2	34.6	1.4	100.0	376
Primary	5.2	25.5	0.0	69.3	100.0	7,938	50.3	6.9	42.2	0.7	100.0	2,437
Secondary	2.6	12.2	0.1	85.2	100.0	4,765	36.5	12.3	50.5	0.6	100.0	707
More than secondary	3.2	24.7	0.0	72.1	100.0	651	79.2	4.9	15.9	0.0	100.0	181
Wealth quintile												
Lowest	6.2	15.8	0.0	78.0	100.0	2,642	29.0	9.4	60.8	0.8	100.0	582
Second	5.1	24.2	0.1	70.6	100.0	2,738	42.6	9.4	47.2	0.8	100.0	804
Middle	4.1	27.5	0.0	68.3	100.0	2,746	48.4	7.3	43.4	0.8	100.0	869
Fourth	3.5	23.4	0.0	73.1	100.0	2,885	56.7	8.4	34.4	0.5	100.0	776
Highest	3.5	17.0	0.0	79.5	100.0	3,272	68.3	6.5	24.7	0.4	100.0	671
Total	4.4	21.4	0.0	74.1	100.0	14,283	49.4	8.2	41.7	0.7	100.0	3,702

¹ Title deed or other government-recognized document

² Jointly with husband, someone else, or both husband and someone else

³ Includes women who have land with a title deed or other government-recognized document, but they do not know if their name is on it, and women who do not know if there is a title deed or other government-recognized document for the land

⁴ Includes women who own land alone, jointly with their husband only, jointly with someone else only, jointly with their husband and someone else, or both alone and jointly

Table 15.4.2 Land ownership and documentation of ownership: Men

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years by ownership of land; and among men who own land, percentage distribution by whether the land owned has a title deed and whether or not the man's name appears on the title deed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who own land:			Total	Number of men	Land has a title deed ¹ :				Total	Number of men who own land ⁴
	Alone	Jointly ²	Percentage who do not own land			Man's name is on title deed ¹	Man's name is not on title deed ¹	Does not have a title deed ¹	Don't know ³		
Age											
15–19	3.2	1.0	95.8	100.0	1,337	12.3	3.7	84.1	0.0	100.0	56
20–24	9.0	3.0	88.0	100.0	1,019	20.1	5.7	74.2	0.0	100.0	123
25–29	12.4	11.0	76.6	100.0	754	17.7	8.2	74.1	0.0	100.0	176
30–34	10.7	17.8	71.5	100.0	766	30.8	7.6	61.6	0.0	100.0	218
35–39	10.8	31.2	58.0	100.0	779	46.5	4.8	48.8	0.0	100.0	327
40–44	8.7	40.4	50.8	100.0	731	63.9	4.3	31.8	0.0	100.0	359
45–49	6.3	54.8	38.9	100.0	505	72.8	1.6	25.6	0.0	100.0	309
Residence											
Urban	7.9	10.1	82.1	100.0	1,889	54.8	6.8	38.4	0.0	100.0	338
Rural	8.5	22.2	69.3	100.0	4,002	44.8	4.3	50.9	0.0	100.0	1,230
Province											
City of Kigali	9.6	6.4	84.0	100.0	1,020	56.1	5.0	39.0	0.0	100.0	163
Southern Province	6.7	23.4	69.9	100.0	1,317	33.2	4.9	61.9	0.0	100.0	397
Western Province	7.8	22.5	69.7	100.0	1,100	51.5	5.8	42.7	0.0	100.0	333
Northern Province	11.6	24.0	64.3	100.0	862	54.3	1.8	43.9	0.0	100.0	308
Eastern Province	7.4	15.7	76.9	100.0	1,591	47.5	6.5	46.1	0.0	100.0	367
Education											
No education	9.8	26.3	63.9	100.0	347	44.1	6.2	49.7	0.0	100.0	125
Primary	8.4	22.0	69.7	100.0	3,469	47.4	3.7	48.9	0.0	100.0	1,052
Secondary	7.1	8.0	84.8	100.0	1,741	33.6	8.4	57.9	0.0	100.0	264
More than secondary	12.4	25.6	62.0	100.0	334	74.0	5.9	20.1	0.0	100.0	127
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	8.3	16.2	75.5	100.0	1,003	26.1	5.0	69.0	0.0	100.0	246
Second	8.4	18.5	73.1	100.0	1,021	38.7	4.5	56.8	0.0	100.0	275
Middle	8.5	20.5	71.0	100.0	1,167	41.8	4.8	53.4	0.0	100.0	338
Fourth	7.7	20.2	72.1	100.0	1,281	56.5	3.3	40.2	0.0	100.0	357
Highest	8.7	16.1	75.2	100.0	1,419	63.2	6.8	30.0	0.0	100.0	352
Total 15–49	8.3	18.3	73.4	100.0	5,891	46.9	4.9	48.2	0.0	100.0	1,568
50–59	9.9	54.7	35.4	100.0	657	82.0	2.2	15.8	0.1	100.0	425
Total 15–59	8.5	22.0	69.6	100.0	6,548	54.4	4.3	41.3	0.0	100.0	1,993

¹ Title deed or other government-recognized document

² Jointly with wife, someone else, or both wife and someone else

³ Includes men who have land with a title deed or other government-recognized document, but they do not know if their name is on it, and men who do not know if there is a title deed or other government-recognized document for the land

⁴ Includes men who own land alone, jointly with their wife only, jointly with someone else only, jointly with their wife and someone else, or both alone and jointly

Table 15.5.1 Ownership and use of mobile phones and bank accounts: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who own any mobile phone, percentage who own a smartphone, and percentage who used a mobile phone to make financial transactions in the last 12 months; percentage of women who have and use a bank account and percentage who deposited or withdrew money from their own bank account in the last 12 months; and percentage of women who have and use a bank account or used a mobile phone for financial transactions in the last 12 months, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Mobile phone ownership:			Bank account ownership and use:		Percentage who have and use a bank account or used a mobile phone for financial transactions in the last 12 months	Number of women
	Percentage who own any mobile phone	Percentage who own a smartphone	Percentage who used a mobile phone for financial transactions in the last 12 months ¹	Percentage who have and use a bank account	Percentage who deposited or withdrew money from their own account in the last 12 months		
Age							
15–19	35.2	14.8	29.6	3.8	2.8	30.4	2,897
20–24	72.6	37.7	68.1	23.2	16.9	70.6	2,489
25–29	74.3	39.8	70.5	39.8	29.9	76.6	2,032
30–34	73.3	33.2	68.8	41.1	29.8	74.4	1,879
35–39	72.5	29.3	63.1	43.8	32.1	71.0	1,911
40–44	65.3	19.2	55.8	41.9	27.9	67.5	1,730
45–49	64.8	20.5	55.5	43.5	29.0	66.8	1,344
Residence							
Urban	80.6	51.9	77.8	39.7	31.6	79.8	4,570
Rural	55.8	16.5	47.8	26.8	17.6	55.3	9,713
Province							
City of Kigali	83.0	56.8	81.9	40.8	33.2	83.2	2,290
Southern Province	57.4	22.6	50.8	29.4	20.5	58.3	3,087
Western Province	61.3	20.6	53.9	28.7	19.0	60.7	2,949
Northern Province	63.8	20.9	56.0	34.9	24.6	63.9	2,089
Eastern Province	59.2	23.9	51.4	25.8	17.8	56.5	3,868
Education							
No education	40.6	4.4	30.5	22.1	11.0	43.1	929
Primary	60.1	16.8	51.6	25.6	16.1	58.7	7,938
Secondary	69.3	41.2	66.6	33.5	26.0	69.4	4,765
More than secondary	99.7	97.3	98.9	89.4	83.1	99.6	651
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	35.9	2.8	29.3	13.5	6.7	36.8	2,642
Second	52.1	7.9	43.6	22.5	13.1	52.4	2,738
Middle	61.7	15.7	54.4	27.3	17.5	61.7	2,746
Fourth	74.9	35.8	69.1	36.1	25.6	73.4	2,885
Highest	87.8	67.7	83.7	50.4	42.9	85.5	3,272
Total	63.7	27.8	57.4	30.9	22.1	63.1	14,283

¹ Respondents were asked about use of a mobile phone for financial transactions whether or not they owned a mobile phone.

Table 15.5.2 Ownership and use of mobile phones and bank accounts: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who own any mobile phone, percentage who own a smartphone, and percentage who used a mobile phone to make financial transactions in the last 12 months; percentage of men who have and use a bank account and percentage who deposited or withdrew money from their own bank account in the last 12 months; and percentage of men who have and use a bank account or used a mobile phone for financial transactions in the last 12 months, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Mobile phone ownership:		Percentage who used a mobile phone for financial transactions in the last 12 months ¹	Bank account ownership and use:		Percentage who have and use a bank account or used a mobile phone for financial transactions in the last 12 months	Number of men
	Percentage who own any mobile phone	Percentage who own a smartphone		Percentage who have and use a bank account	Percentage who deposited or withdrew money from their own account in the last 12 months		
Age							
15–19	38.6	20.5	36.4	3.2	2.2	37.0	1,337
20–24	86.7	47.5	84.0	27.8	22.5	85.1	1,019
25–29	86.5	43.0	86.6	47.3	38.4	88.9	754
30–34	82.3	39.3	81.0	51.8	40.9	84.7	766
35–39	83.2	36.2	80.3	53.6	42.1	83.9	779
40–44	81.0	33.4	77.9	58.2	45.4	82.9	731
45–49	78.1	33.9	73.5	63.2	46.5	83.2	505
Residence							
Urban	85.4	56.6	87.0	51.2	42.2	88.1	1,889
Rural	67.5	25.3	63.4	31.8	23.9	67.4	4,002
Province							
City of Kigali	89.1	59.0	91.3	53.7	44.2	91.8	1,020
Southern Province	66.0	30.3	63.5	35.7	26.8	67.6	1,317
Western Province	70.8	30.2	67.8	36.1	26.4	71.6	1,100
Northern Province	76.6	31.9	71.3	39.9	30.5	75.1	862
Eastern Province	69.1	29.8	66.2	30.3	25.1	69.1	1,591
Education							
No education	52.8	8.4	45.3	24.3	14.5	54.6	347
Primary	69.8	25.1	66.8	33.0	23.8	70.4	3,469
Secondary	79.1	49.6	79.0	40.3	33.2	80.2	1,741
More than secondary	100.0	95.6	99.5	92.7	90.2	99.6	334
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	45.2	7.2	42.5	14.9	8.5	48.3	1,003
Second	66.8	16.9	61.9	26.3	17.1	67.2	1,021
Middle	75.8	26.1	70.7	34.1	24.8	73.8	1,167
Fourth	81.7	42.3	81.2	44.5	35.4	83.1	1,281
Highest	88.0	69.8	88.7	60.3	53.0	89.2	1,419
Total 15–49	73.3	35.3	71.0	38.0	29.8	74.0	5,891
50–59	75.2	24.0	73.2	60.7	49.5	80.0	657
Total 15–59	73.5	34.2	71.2	40.3	31.8	74.6	6,548

¹ Respondents were asked about use of a mobile phone for financial transactions whether or not they owned a mobile phone.

Table 15.6 Participation in decision making

Percentage distribution of currently married women and currently married men aged 15–49 years by person who usually makes decisions about various issues, Rwanda DHS 2025

Decision	Mainly wife	Wife and husband jointly	Mainly husband	Someone else	Total	Number
WOMEN						
Own health care	24.9	49.3	25.5	0.3	100.0	7,410
Major household purchases	7.3	69.7	22.9	0.0	100.0	7,410
Visits to her family or relatives	17.8	68.7	13.5	0.0	100.0	7,410
MEN						
Own health care	3.2	29.3	67.5	0.0	100.0	2,983
Major household purchases	7.2	63.7	29.1	0.0	100.0	2,983

Note: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married, and the term wife includes a partner with whom a man is living as if married.

Table 15.7.1 Women's participation in decision making according to background characteristics

Percentage of currently married women aged 15–49 years who usually make specific decisions either by themselves or jointly with their husband, by background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Specific decisions				None of the three decisions	Number of women
	Woman's own health care	Making major household purchases	Visits to her family or relatives	All three decisions		
Age						
15–19	49.5	65.6	81.6	41.1	11.5	92
20–24	65.0	70.8	80.8	51.3	10.4	839
25–29	73.3	75.0	83.4	58.9	8.1	1,293
30–34	75.8	78.3	86.5	63.1	6.2	1,427
35–39	74.0	78.3	88.1	61.3	5.5	1,482
40–44	77.8	77.9	88.1	64.1	5.2	1,304
45–49	79.0	81.3	91.2	68.1	3.7	974
Number of living children						
0	61.0	74.3	81.7	51.5	8.2	356
1–2	73.1	75.5	84.9	59.0	7.3	3,108
3–4	76.0	78.1	88.1	63.4	5.8	2,584
5+	76.8	79.3	88.2	64.6	5.2	1,361
Residence						
Urban	77.3	81.9	87.9	66.3	5.5	2,166
Rural	72.9	75.0	85.9	59.1	6.8	5,244
Province						
City of Kigali	78.8	84.5	90.0	71.2	5.7	1,030
Southern Province	73.1	72.5	84.7	57.2	6.9	1,595
Western Province	74.2	79.2	88.7	63.9	6.1	1,559
Northern Province	72.1	77.6	88.3	58.9	5.1	1,173
Eastern Province	74.0	75.0	83.3	58.6	7.3	2,053
Education						
No education	76.8	75.3	87.8	63.9	7.5	603
Primary	72.7	75.5	86.0	59.3	6.7	4,610
Secondary	75.2	78.8	86.0	62.2	6.2	1,843
More than secondary	84.3	91.3	92.7	77.1	2.5	353
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	71.2	70.0	83.6	56.0	8.7	1,419
Second	73.4	76.0	86.5	60.2	6.2	1,457
Middle	73.4	76.2	86.1	60.0	6.8	1,499
Fourth	74.0	77.9	86.5	60.5	5.9	1,526
Highest	78.7	84.6	89.5	69.0	4.6	1,509
Total	74.2	77.0	86.5	61.2	6.4	7,410

Note: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married.



Table 15.7.2 Men's participation in decision making according to background characteristics

Percentage of currently married men aged 15–49 years who usually make specific decisions either alone or jointly with their wife, by background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Specific decisions			Neither of the two decisions	Number of men
	Man's own health	Making major household purchases	Both decisions		
Age					
15–19	*	*	*	*	3
20–24	94.6	90.6	88.5	3.3	173
25–29	94.9	91.8	88.9	2.1	405
30–34	96.9	93.2	91.4	1.2	605
35–39	96.6	92.9	91.3	1.8	673
40–44	97.8	93.6	92.3	0.9	665
45–49	97.7	92.5	91.2	0.9	460
Number of living children					
0	95.3	92.9	89.3	1.0	241
1–2	96.3	93.0	91.2	1.9	1,243
3–4	97.3	92.7	91.1	1.1	999
5+	97.5	92.5	91.3	1.3	500
Residence					
Urban	97.2	92.9	91.4	1.3	910
Rural	96.6	92.7	90.9	1.6	2,073
Province					
City of Kigali	98.0	92.0	91.3	1.3	470
Southern Province	96.5	93.4	91.3	1.4	606
Western Province	96.6	94.7	92.4	1.0	622
Northern Province	97.6	95.7	93.9	0.7	486
Eastern Province	95.9	89.6	87.9	2.5	800
Education					
No education	96.5	92.9	91.1	1.8	245
Primary	96.3	92.1	90.1	1.8	2,007
Secondary	98.5	93.7	92.8	0.7	551
More than secondary	97.5	97.9	95.7	0.2	180
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	95.3	90.3	88.9	3.3	562
Second	96.0	93.2	90.5	1.4	564
Middle	97.2	92.1	89.7	0.5	597
Fourth	97.8	93.6	92.5	1.1	652
Highest	97.4	94.7	93.3	1.2	609
Total 15–49	96.8	92.8	91.0	1.5	2,983
50–59	96.9	92.9	91.5	1.6	600
Total 15–59	96.8	92.8	91.1	1.5	3,584

Note: The term wife includes a partner with whom a man is living as if married. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 15.8.1 Attitude toward wife beating: Women

Percentage of all women aged 15–49 years who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for specific reasons, by background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if she:							Percent- age who agree with at least one of the first five specified reasons ¹	Percent- age who agree with at least one of the seven specified reasons ²	Number of women
	Goes out without telling him	Neglects the children	Argues with him	Refuses to have sexual inter- course with him	Burns the food	Has sex with someone else	Looks in his phone			
Age										
15–19	17.0	24.4	13.0	15.8	7.0	41.9	6.2	33.1	47.3	2,897
20–24	16.4	21.9	12.1	14.7	6.7	42.0	7.2	29.4	46.2	2,489
25–29	15.5	19.3	11.3	13.0	6.0	37.5	6.0	26.1	41.2	2,032
30–34	16.9	20.9	12.9	14.9	6.5	40.6	7.0	27.7	44.3	1,879
35–39	18.3	20.7	13.3	14.8	7.0	41.0	8.8	28.1	44.1	1,911
40–44	20.2	23.5	15.8	18.5	9.8	45.3	10.1	31.4	49.1	1,730
45–49	17.5	21.8	13.6	15.9	7.4	42.1	8.5	29.7	46.1	1,344
Number of living children										
0	15.1	20.9	11.0	13.9	6.2	38.2	5.9	28.7	42.7	4,856
1–2	17.6	21.5	13.2	15.2	7.2	41.9	7.6	29.1	46.1	4,626
3–4	18.7	22.2	14.5	15.5	7.4	42.8	8.8	29.3	46.2	3,170
5+	20.1	25.4	15.7	19.3	9.3	47.3	9.7	33.7	50.6	1,631
Marital status										
Never married	15.7	21.7	11.9	14.5	6.6	38.5	6.3	29.5	43.3	5,505
Married or living together	17.7	21.4	13.2	15.1	7.1	43.2	7.7	28.9	46.7	7,410
Divorced/separated/ widowed	21.3	25.3	16.5	19.6	9.2	44.0	11.0	33.2	48.1	1,369
Residence										
Urban	11.8	15.4	8.4	10.1	4.2	31.7	5.3	21.0	35.1	4,570
Rural	19.9	25.0	15.2	17.7	8.5	46.0	8.5	33.6	50.4	9,713
Province										
City of Kigali	9.1	10.3	5.7	7.3	2.9	22.5	4.3	15.3	25.4	2,290
Southern Province	21.5	25.3	16.4	18.4	9.5	49.4	9.8	34.5	53.1	3,087
Western Province	20.9	27.1	17.0	18.4	9.2	49.0	8.7	34.4	53.0	2,949
Northern Province	15.8	18.2	11.2	12.8	6.3	39.7	6.2	25.9	43.0	2,089
Eastern Province	16.8	24.2	12.6	16.6	6.5	41.5	7.3	32.3	46.9	3,868
Education										
No education	24.8	27.3	20.9	25.4	11.9	47.7	12.8	39.1	52.1	929
Primary	21.4	26.3	16.2	18.7	9.0	47.7	9.4	35.2	52.3	7,938
Secondary	11.1	16.1	7.8	9.3	3.9	33.8	4.1	21.6	37.3	4,765
More than secondary	2.2	3.9	1.4	2.4	0.5	11.8	1.5	6.1	13.5	651
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	26.6	33.0	21.9	24.6	12.7	53.8	12.5	42.7	58.8	2,642
Second	20.7	25.4	14.8	18.1	8.1	48.2	8.7	34.1	52.4	2,738
Middle	17.9	23.4	13.0	15.4	7.7	44.9	7.6	31.7	49.5	2,746
Fourth	14.6	17.8	10.6	12.4	5.1	36.9	6.0	25.2	40.5	2,885
Highest	8.8	12.5	6.5	7.9	3.0	27.0	3.7	17.2	30.1	3,272
Total	17.3	21.9	13.0	15.3	7.1	41.5	7.5	29.6	45.5	14,283

Note: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married.

¹ Includes going out without telling him, neglecting the children, arguing with him, refusing to have sex with him, and burning the food

² Includes the first five reasons, having sex with someone else, and looking in his phone

Table 15.8.2 Attitude toward wife beating: Men

Percentage of all men aged 15–49 years who agree that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife for specific reasons, by background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if she:							Percent- age who agree with at least one of the first five specified reasons ¹	Percent- age who agree with at least one of the seven specified reasons ²	Number of men
	Goes out without telling him	Neglects the children	Argues with him	Refuses to have sexual inter- course with him	Burns the food	Has sex with someone else	Looks in his phone			
Age										
15–19	9.1	14.3	7.4	9.8	4.2	34.7	2.3	21.8	37.8	1,337
20–24	7.0	9.0	4.3	5.3	2.2	26.3	1.4	14.7	30.2	1,019
25–29	6.8	8.7	3.7	3.7	1.8	27.5	2.2	13.4	30.1	754
30–34	5.6	7.0	3.5	3.5	1.5	24.1	1.8	12.1	27.2	766
35–39	6.7	6.8	3.2	4.7	1.2	25.7	1.2	11.6	28.0	779
40–44	6.6	6.4	3.3	2.1	1.9	22.9	0.9	10.3	25.4	731
45–49	6.9	7.1	3.3	3.2	0.4	22.4	1.3	11.8	26.0	505
Number of living children										
0	7.6	10.8	5.3	6.9	2.8	28.9	1.9	16.7	32.0	2,890
1–2	6.9	7.6	3.8	4.0	1.4	26.9	1.6	13.6	30.0	1,445
3–4	5.8	7.1	3.6	3.3	2.0	24.2	1.1	10.7	26.4	1,043
5+	8.1	8.2	3.3	3.1	1.2	25.2	1.2	13.4	29.4	513
Marital status										
Never married	7.8	11.2	5.6	7.3	3.0	29.2	2.1	17.2	32.5	2,772
Married or living together	6.4	7.1	3.3	3.1	1.5	25.0	1.3	11.8	27.7	2,983
Divorced/separated/ widowed	10.1	11.4	7.0	7.4	1.1	36.5	1.6	21.9	42.7	135
Residence										
Urban	3.9	5.8	2.6	2.8	1.0	20.0	0.8	9.2	22.2	1,889
Rural	8.7	10.7	5.3	6.4	2.8	30.7	2.1	17.1	34.1	4,002
Province										
City of Kigali	2.7	5.0	2.7	1.9	0.6	14.8	0.8	7.6	17.2	1,020
Southern Province	10.5	10.5	5.6	4.8	2.3	33.3	1.6	17.4	36.5	1,317
Western Province	9.1	13.8	6.2	7.8	3.5	33.9	1.8	19.5	37.0	1,100
Northern Province	4.0	4.2	3.3	4.8	1.0	16.1	0.7	9.7	19.0	862
Eastern Province	7.7	10.2	4.1	6.1	2.8	31.6	2.6	16.1	35.0	1,591
Education										
No education	9.9	11.4	4.3	7.3	1.9	32.7	1.9	18.1	36.2	347
Primary	8.7	10.2	5.2	5.8	2.6	30.9	1.8	16.8	34.2	3,469
Secondary	4.9	8.0	3.9	4.6	1.8	22.9	1.4	12.0	25.7	1,741
More than secondary	1.0	1.6	0.2	0.4	0.1	6.2	0.6	2.4	7.3	334
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	12.1	14.5	7.1	8.8	4.3	35.5	2.4	22.5	39.8	1,003
Second	9.3	10.6	5.2	6.1	2.0	31.7	2.2	18.2	35.2	1,021
Middle	7.2	9.4	5.0	6.0	2.5	30.6	1.6	15.2	33.5	1,167
Fourth	6.1	8.2	4.5	4.0	2.0	25.5	1.4	12.9	28.5	1,281
Highest	3.1	4.9	1.6	2.4	0.8	17.1	0.9	7.4	18.9	1,419
Total 15–49	7.2	9.1	4.5	5.2	2.2	27.3	1.6	14.6	30.3	5,891
50–59	3.9	3.8	2.8	3.5	1.4	22.7	0.9	7.1	23.7	657
Total 15–59	6.9	8.6	4.3	5.0	2.1	26.8	1.6	13.8	29.6	6,548

Note: The term wife includes a partner with whom a man is living as if married.

¹ Includes going out without telling him, neglecting the children, arguing with him, refusing to have sex with him, and burning the food

² Includes the first five reasons, having sex with someone else, and looking in his phone

Table 15.9 Attitudes toward negotiating safer sexual relations with husband

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who believe that a woman is justified in refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband if she knows that he has sexual intercourse with other women, and percentage who believe that a woman is justified in asking that they use a condom if she knows that her husband has a sexually transmitted infection (STI), according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband if she knows he has sex with other women	Asking that they use a condom if she knows that her husband has an STI	Number of women	Refusing to have sexual intercourse with her husband if she knows he has sex with other women	Asking that they use a condom if she knows that her husband has an STI	Number of men
Age						
15–24	63.6	82.1	5,386	71.4	85.5	2,356
15–19	60.9	79.7	2,897	66.3	81.2	1,337
20–24	66.7	84.9	2,489	78.1	91.1	1,019
25–29	70.3	86.8	2,032	82.5	94.5	754
30–39	71.0	87.4	3,790	83.8	93.1	1,545
40–49	74.5	87.4	3,074	85.3	94.6	1,236
Marital status						
Never married	63.9	81.2	5,505	72.9	86.3	2,772
Ever had sex	68.8	86.5	2,058	78.9	92.8	1,227
Never had sex	60.9	78.1	3,446	68.1	81.1	1,545
Married/living together	72.0	87.9	7,410	84.4	94.2	2,983
Divorced/separated/widowed	72.1	87.4	1,369	86.1	97.1	135
Residence						
Urban	70.8	84.7	4,570	82.0	92.1	1,889
Rural	68.0	85.6	9,713	77.6	89.8	4,002
Province						
City of Kigali	70.7	82.5	2,290	77.4	91.9	1,020
Southern Province	71.1	90.7	3,087	76.1	89.8	1,317
Western Province	66.8	82.9	2,949	79.0	88.1	1,100
Northern Province	72.2	89.5	2,089	79.4	89.0	862
Eastern Province	65.7	82.2	3,868	82.2	92.9	1,591
Education						
No education	71.9	81.1	929	81.1	89.5	347
Primary	68.8	85.4	7,938	79.3	90.8	3,469
Secondary	67.8	85.5	4,765	77.4	89.7	1,741
More than secondary	72.7	88.2	651	82.2	93.5	334
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	68.6	83.6	2,642	79.1	88.1	1,003
Second	68.9	84.6	2,738	77.3	90.8	1,021
Middle	68.1	86.8	2,746	79.6	90.2	1,167
Fourth	69.5	86.0	2,885	78.6	91.8	1,281
Highest	69.1	85.3	3,272	80.0	91.3	1,419
Total 15–49	68.9	85.3	14,283	79.0	90.6	5,891
50–59	na	na	na	85.1	94.3	657
Total 15–59	na	na	na	79.6	90.9	6,548

na = Not applicable

Table 15.10 Ability to negotiate sexual relations with husband

Percentage of currently married women aged 15–49 years who can say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual intercourse, and percentage who can ask their husband to use a condom if they wanted to, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who can say no to their husband if they do not want to have sexual intercourse	Percentage who can ask their husband to use a condom if they wanted to	Number of women
Age			
15–24	75.0	72.8	931
15–19	72.2	78.2	92
20–24	75.3	72.2	839
25–29	76.6	73.0	1,293
30–39	74.8	75.3	2,909
40–49	73.2	72.2	2,277
Residence			
Urban	73.9	71.1	2,166
Rural	75.0	74.7	5,244
Province			
City of Kigali	71.9	67.7	1,030
Southern Province	78.6	76.8	1,595
Western Province	71.5	71.6	1,559
Northern Province	83.3	80.9	1,173
Eastern Province	70.4	71.5	2,053
Education			
No education	67.0	67.9	603
Primary	74.5	73.1	4,610
Secondary	77.0	76.2	1,843
More than secondary	77.7	77.1	353
Wealth quintile			
Lowest	73.7	73.6	1,419
Second	75.2	74.6	1,457
Middle	77.5	74.8	1,499
Fourth	73.0	73.5	1,526
Highest	73.8	71.6	1,509
Total	74.7	73.6	7,410

Note: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married.



Table 15.11 Women's participation in decision making regarding sexual and reproductive health

Percentage of currently married women aged 15–49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive health care, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who make decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive care ¹	Number of currently married women
Age		
15–19	32.9	92
20–24	46.3	839
25–29	54.6	1,293
30–34	56.4	1,427
35–39	51.5	1,482
40–44	55.0	1,304
45–49	54.8	974
Residence		
Urban	54.7	2,166
Rural	52.6	5,244
Province		
City of Kigali	54.1	1,030
Southern Province	56.1	1,595
Western Province	51.1	1,559
Northern Province	57.6	1,173
Eastern Province	49.6	2,053
Education		
No education	50.1	603
Primary	51.7	4,610
Secondary	56.0	1,843
More than secondary	63.6	353
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	51.6	1,419
Second	52.7	1,457
Middle	54.4	1,499
Fourth	51.6	1,526
Highest	55.8	1,509
Total	53.2	7,410

¹ Percentages of currently married women who make decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use, and health care are presented in Table 15.10, Table 7.17, and Table 15.7.1, respectively.

Key Findings

- **Person collecting drinking water:** In the 78% of households that do not have drinking water on the premises, the person responsible for collecting drinking water is most often a female adult age 15 or older (51%).
- **Sanitation:** 86% of households have an improved sanitation facility, while 2% have no sanitation facility or practice open defecation. Overall, 71% of the household population has at least basic sanitation service.
- **Management of excreta:** 83% of household members manage their excreta appropriately.
- **Handwashing:** Overall, 21% of the household population has access to a basic handwashing facility and 24% has access to a limited handwashing facility.
- **Menstrual hygiene:** 66% of women used disposable sanitary pads for their most recent menstrual period; nearly all women (93%) were able to wash and change in privacy and used appropriate materials during their last menstruation.

The extent to which households have access to and use safe drinking water and sanitation facilities, and engage in hygienic practices, has profound implications for the health, safety, and overall well-being of the population. This chapter presents information on source of drinking water, type of sanitation facility, disposal of excreta (including disposal of young children's stools), handwashing, and menstrual hygiene. In Rwanda, the Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey, known in French as the *Enquête Intégrale sur les Conditions de Vie des Ménages* (EICV), is the principal data source for access to an improved source of drinking water and the drinking water service ladder. Therefore, results for these indicators are not included in this report.

16.1 Distance to Drinking Water Sources, Availability, and Treatment

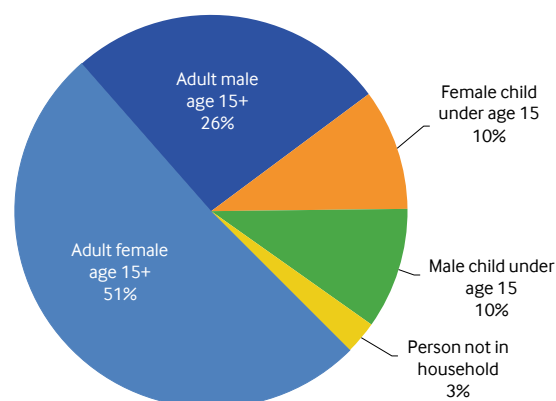
Twenty-four percent of households have water on the premises, and 44% report traveling 30 minutes or less (round trip) to obtain drinking water. Nineteen percent of households are located less than 200 meters from the water source, and 30% are located between 200 and 500 meters from the source (**Table 16.1**).

16.1.1 Person Collecting Drinking Water

Seventy-eight percent of the population lives in households without drinking water on the premises (**Table 16.2**). In households without drinking water on the premises, the individual collecting water is more often an adult female age 15 or older (51%) than an adult male (26%). Ten percent each of female children and male children under age 15 are responsible for collecting water (**Figure 16.1**).

Figure 16.1 Person collecting drinking water

Among de jure household population without drinking water on premises, percentage distribution by person who collects drinking water



16.1.2 Availability of Drinking Water

Availability of sufficient drinking water

Percentage of the population with sufficient quantities of drinking water in the last month.

Sample: De jure population

Slightly more than two-thirds (68%) of the population has sufficient quantities of drinking water (**Table 16.3**).

16.1.3 Treatment of Drinking Water

Table 16.4 shows that one-third of the de jure population (32%) lives in households that use an appropriate method to treat their drinking water (boiling, bleaching, filtering, or solar disinfecting). The most common treatment method is to boil water (28%). Seventy-three percent of household members who use an unimproved source of drinking water and 77% using surface water do not use any method to treat their drinking water.

16.2 Sanitation

Improved sanitation facilities

Include flush/pour flush toilets that flush water and waste to a piped sewer system, septic tank, pit latrine, or unknown destination; ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrines; pit latrines with slabs; and composting toilets.

Sample: Households and de jure population

Table 16.5 shows that 86% of households have improved toilet facilities, which are facilities that prevent people from coming into contact with human waste and can reduce the transmission of cholera, typhoid, and other diseases. Pit latrines with slabs are the most common type of sanitation facility (71%), followed by ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrines (10%). Twelve percent of households use unimproved toilet facilities and 2% engage in open defecation.

Only 4% of households have toilet facilities in their own dwelling, and 92% have facilities in their own yard/plot; 4% of households use toilet facilities located elsewhere (**Table 16.5**).

Trends: The percentage of households with an improved toilet facility increased from 72% in 2019–20 to 86% in 2025.

16.2.1 Sanitation Service Ladder

Sanitation service ladder

Safely managed

Use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households and where excreta are safely disposed of in situ or transported and treated off-site.

Basic

Use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households.

Limited

Use of improved facilities shared by two or more households.

Unimproved

Use of pit latrines without a slab or platform, hanging latrines, or bucket latrines.

Open defecation

Disposal of human feces in fields, forests, bushes, open bodies of water, beaches, or other open spaces or with solid waste.

Sample: De jure population

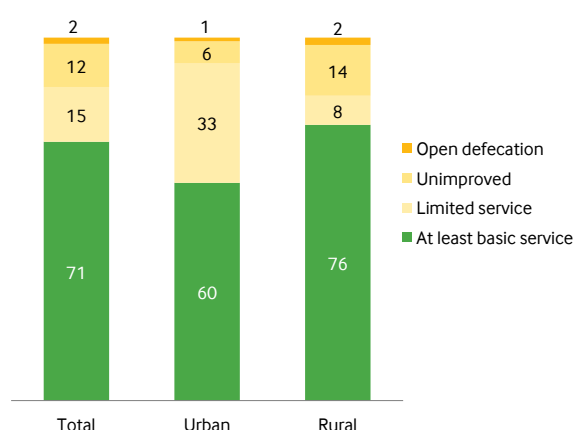
The JMP has also developed a five-rung sanitation service ladder to benchmark and compare progress towards achieving SDG targets related to sanitation. The 2025 RDHS captured information about all five rungs. However, for households whose excreta were taken off-site, it is not possible to determine whether the excreta were treated appropriately; therefore, safely managed and basic sanitation services are grouped together in **Table 16.6** as “at least basic service.”

Overall, 71% of the population has at least basic sanitation service, while 15% has limited service, 12% has unimproved sanitation, and 2% has no sanitation facility or practices open defecation (**Table 16.6** and **Figure 16.2**).

Trends: The percentage of the population with at least basic sanitation service increased from 61% in 2019–20 to 71% in 2025.

Figure 16.2 Household population sanitation service by residence

Percentage distribution of de jure population by sanitation service ladder



16.2.2 Removal and Disposal of Excreta

Disposal of excreta from on-site facilities

Excreta safely disposed of in situ

Includes septic tanks and latrines in which waste is buried in a covered pit, waste is never emptied, and it is unknown if waste is ever emptied.

Excreta disposed of unsafely

Includes septic tanks and latrines in which waste is emptied to uncovered pits, open ground, a water body, or other locations.

Excreta removed for treatment

Includes septic tanks and latrines in which waste is removed by a service provider to a treatment plant or an unknown location or is removed by a non-service provider to an unknown location.

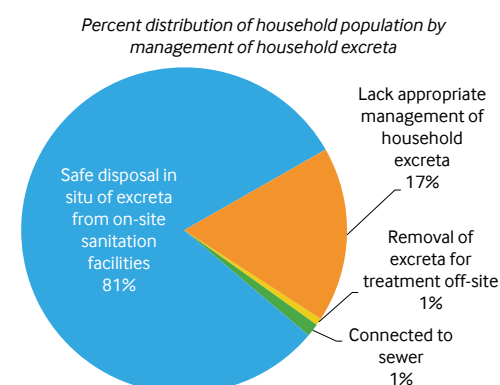
Sample: De jure population with on-site sanitation facilities (septic tanks, pit latrines, and composting toilets)

Information on the disposal of excreta from sanitation facilities that are not connected to a sewer system is essential for assessing the proportion of the population using safely managed sanitation services.

Among de jure residents living in households with septic tanks or other on-site sanitation facilities, the majority (86%) have never had their septic tanks emptied, and less than 1% have their excreta removed by a service provider to either a known or an unknown location. Among residents living in households with on-site sanitation facilities, 95% safely dispose of their excreta in situ, 1% have their excreta removed for treatment, and 5% have their excreta disposed of unsafely (**Table 16.7**).

Eighty-one percent of the household population safely disposes of excreta from on-site sanitation facilities in situ, while 1% removes excreta for treatment off-site. Twelve percent of household residents use unimproved sanitation facilities, 4% use an improved on-site sanitation facility but have their excreta disposed of unsafely, and 2% practice open defecation. Overall, 83% of the population lives in households where excreta are managed appropriately (**Table 16.8** and **Figure 16.3**), while the remaining 17% lacks appropriate management of household excreta.

Figure 16.3 Appropriate management of household excreta



16.3 Disposal of Children's Stools

Appropriate disposal of children's stools

The child's last stools were put or rinsed into a toilet or latrine, or the child used a toilet or latrine.

Sample: Youngest children under age 2 living with their mother

Proper disposal of human waste is important to prevent diseases transmitted through feces. Seventy-eight percent of children under age 2 living with their mother had their last stool disposed of appropriately. Seven percent of children used a toilet or latrine, and 71% of children's last stools were put/rinsed into a toilet or latrine. Five

percent of children's last stools were put/rinsed into a drain or ditch, and 10% were thrown into the garbage (Table 16.9).

16.4 Handwashing

Handwashing facilities

Basic

Availability of a handwashing facility on the premises with soap and water.

Limited

Availability of a handwashing facility on the premises without soap and water.

Sample: De jure population for whom a place for handwashing was observed or with no place for handwashing in dwelling, yard, or plot; excludes the de jure population for whom permission to see the facility was not granted

Handwashing is an important step in monitoring hygiene and preventing the spread of disease. Rather than asking direct questions on the practice of handwashing, which can be subject to overreporting, interviewers asked to see the place where members of the household most often washed their hands. A place for washing hands was observed for 43% of the de jure population (Table 16.10). Of the handwashing places observed, 11% were in a fixed location and 31% were mobile.

According to the definition of handwashing facilities developed by the JMP, 21% of the population has a basic handwashing facility and 24% has a limited handwashing facility. Among the population living in households where handwashing facilities were observed, 51% had soap available and 56% had water available.

16.5 Menstrual Hygiene

Appropriate menstrual hygiene materials

Reusable sanitary pads, disposable sanitary pads, tampons, menstrual cup, cloth, toilet paper, and/or cotton wool.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years with a menstrual period in the last year

Privacy and use of appropriate menstrual hygiene materials

Percentage of women who were able to wash and change in privacy and who used appropriate materials during their last menstruation period.

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years with a menstrual period in the last year who were home during their last menstrual period

Using appropriate menstrual hygiene materials is important for women's health in general and, more specifically, for their menstrual health. In the 2025 RDHS, women aged 15–49 years were asked about the materials they use for menstrual hygiene. Sixty-six percent of women use disposable sanitary pads, 24% use cloth, 10% use reusable sanitary pads, and 4% use underwear only (Table 16.11).

Women were also asked if they were able to wash and change in privacy during their last menstrual period; 95% of respondents reported that they were able to do so. Overall, 93% of women were able to wash and change in privacy and used appropriate materials during their last menstrual period (Table 16.11).



About 3 in 4 women (76%) said that they had enough menstrual materials to change them as often as they wanted throughout their last period. The majority (85%) reported not worrying that someone would see them while they were changing menstrual materials at home (**Table 16.12**).

Table 16.13 shows that 85% of women were not able to reduce menstrual pain when needed, 87% would feel comfortable seeking help from a health care provider if they had a concern about their menstrual period, and 67% knew about menstruation before their first menstrual period.

Seventy-six percent of women reported that they did not have trouble participating in work, education/training, and social activities due to their last menstrual period (**Table 16.14**).

List of Tables

For more information on water and sanitation characteristics, see the following tables:

- **Table 16.1** Time and distance to source of drinking water
- **Table 16.2** Person collecting drinking water
- **Table 16.3** Availability of sufficient drinking water
- **Table 16.4** Treatment of household drinking water
- **Table 16.5** Household sanitation facilities
- **Table 16.6** Sanitation service ladder
- **Table 16.7** Emptying and removal of waste from on-site sanitation facilities
- **Table 16.8** Management of household excreta
- **Table 16.9** Disposal of children's stools
- **Table 16.10** Handwashing
- **Table 16.11** Menstrual hygiene
- **Table 16.12** Having sufficient menstrual materials and not worrying about privacy while changing menstrual materials
- **Table 16.13** Menstruation-related pain, support, and knowledge
- **Table 16.14** Participation in activities during menstruation



Table 16.1 Time and distance to source of drinking water

Percentage distribution of households and de jure population by time to obtain drinking water and distance from the dwelling to the water source, according to residence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Characteristic	Households			Population		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Time to obtain drinking water (round trip)						
Water on premises ¹	54.7	10.4	23.6	52.4	10.2	22.2
30 minutes or less	28.2	50.0	43.5	29.2	48.8	43.2
More than 30 minutes	16.9	39.6	32.8	18.3	40.9	34.4
Don't know	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Distance from dwelling to the water source						
Water on premises ¹	54.7	10.4	23.6	52.4	10.2	22.2
Less than 200 m	14.1	20.4	18.5	14.3	19.8	18.2
200–500 m	17.5	35.6	30.1	18.3	34.8	30.1
More than 500 m	13.6	33.4	27.5	14.8	34.9	29.2
Don't know	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households/population	4,315	10,112	14,427	15,997	40,240	56,237

¹ Includes water piped to a neighbour and those reporting a round-trip collection time of zero minutes

Table 16.2 Person collecting drinking water

Percentage of de jure population in households without drinking water on premises, and percentage distribution of de jure population in households without drinking water on premises by the person who usually collects drinking water used in the household, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of de jure population without drinking water on premises ¹	Number of persons	Person who usually collects drinking water					Total	Number of persons without drinking water on premises ¹
			Adult female age 15 or older	Adult male age 15 or older	Female child under age 15	Male child under age 15	Person not in household		
Residence									
Urban	47.6	15,997	52.8	24.7	7.7	9.3	5.5	100.0	7,612
Rural	89.8	40,240	50.7	26.6	10.4	10.1	2.1	100.0	36,119
Province									
City of Kigali	42.8	7,678	53.5	25.4	7.4	9.2	4.5	100.0	3,284
Southern Province	82.7	12,802	47.8	26.2	12.6	11.6	1.8	100.0	10,590
Western Province	81.4	11,846	58.1	18.0	12.2	10.2	1.4	100.0	9,638
Northern Province	85.5	8,344	58.8	22.6	8.1	8.6	1.9	100.0	7,132
Eastern Province	84.1	15,568	43.7	34.7	7.9	9.4	4.3	100.0	13,086
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	95.4	11,246	52.0	22.1	12.2	12.2	1.5	100.0	10,729
Second	94.7	11,247	52.8	24.2	11.3	10.5	1.1	100.0	10,650
Middle	91.7	11,251	53.2	28.0	9.2	8.4	1.3	100.0	10,313
Fourth	77.2	11,242	49.5	29.4	7.8	9.3	4.0	100.0	8,680
Highest	29.9	11,250	40.1	33.1	6.4	7.8	12.5	100.0	3,359
Total	77.8	56,237	51.1	26.3	10.0	10.0	2.7	100.0	43,730

¹ Excludes water piped to a neighbour and those reporting a round-trip collection time of zero minutes

Table 16.3 Availability of sufficient drinking water

Percentage of de jure population with access to sufficient quantities of drinking water when needed, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage with drinking water available in sufficient quantities ¹	Number of persons
Residence		
Urban	65.7	15,997
Rural	68.7	40,240
Province		
City of Kigali	64.8	7,678
Southern Province	76.1	12,802
Western Province	73.3	11,846
Northern Province	76.4	8,344
Eastern Province	53.8	15,568
Time to obtain drinking water (round trip)		
Water on premises ²	71.7	12,507
30 minutes or less	74.8	24,320
More than 30 minutes	56.7	19,371
Don't know	(43.3)	40
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	66.0	11,246
Second	67.7	11,247
Middle	66.9	11,251
Fourth	66.5	11,242
Highest	72.0	11,250
Total	67.8	56,237

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Defined as having sufficient quantities of drinking water in the last month

² Includes water piped to a neighbour and those reporting a round-trip collection time of zero minutes

Table 16.4 Treatment of household drinking water

Percentage of de jure population using various methods to treat drinking water, and percentage using an appropriate treatment method, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Boiled	Bleach/chlorine added	Strained through cloth	Ceramic, sand, or other filter	Solar disinfection	Let stand and settle	Other	Don't know	No treatment	Percentage using an appropriate treatment method ¹	Number of persons
Residence											
Urban	34.6	1.2	0.0	3.2	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.0	60.0	38.8	15,997
Rural	25.6	1.6	0.1	2.5	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	70.4	29.3	40,240
Province											
City of Kigali	33.5	1.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	61.1	37.5	7,678
Southern Province	34.7	2.3	0.0	1.7	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	61.5	38.1	12,802
Western Province	22.1	0.9	0.0	5.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	71.9	28.0	11,846
Northern Province	30.4	0.7	0.3	2.4	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	66.1	33.2	8,344
Eastern Province	23.5	1.8	0.2	1.6	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	72.7	26.6	15,568
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	12.8	0.5	0.1	1.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.1	85.3	14.2	11,246
Second	17.9	1.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	79.0	20.8	11,247
Middle	26.1	1.7	0.2	2.5	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	69.9	29.7	11,251
Fourth	34.0	1.9	0.1	3.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	61.0	38.6	11,242
Highest	49.9	2.1	0.1	5.0	0.2	0.1	1.3	0.0	41.9	56.4	11,250
Total	28.2	1.4	0.1	2.7	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	67.4	32.0	56,237

Note: Respondents may report multiple treatment methods, so the sum of treatment may exceed 100%.

¹ Appropriate water treatment methods are boiling, bleaching, filtering, and solar disinfecting.

Table 16.5 Household sanitation facilities

Percentage distribution of households and de jure population by type of toilet/latrine facilities, and percentage distribution of households and de jure population with a toilet/latrine facility by location of the facility, according to residence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Type and location of toilet/latrine facility	Households			Population		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
Improved sanitation facility	93.7	82.1	85.6	93.6	83.5	86.4
Flush/pour flush to piped sewer system	4.2	0.1	1.3	4.4	0.0	1.3
Flush/pour flush to septic tank	2.0	0.2	0.8	2.0	0.3	0.8
Flush/pour flush to pit latrine	6.8	1.1	2.8	6.8	0.9	2.6
Ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrine	11.4	9.2	9.9	11.6	9.2	9.8
Pit latrine with slab	69.1	71.5	70.7	68.5	73.1	71.8
Composting toilet	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1
Unimproved sanitation facility	5.4	15.2	12.3	5.7	14.4	11.9
Pit latrine without slab/open pit	5.4	15.2	12.3	5.7	14.4	11.9
Open defecation (no facility/ bush/field)	0.9	2.7	2.1	0.8	2.1	1.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households/ population	4,315	10,112	14,427	15,997	40,240	56,237
Location of toilet facility						
In own dwelling	11.1	0.4	3.6	11.6	0.4	3.6
In own yard/plot	86.6	94.4	92.0	86.1	94.9	92.3
Elsewhere	2.4	5.2	4.4	2.4	4.8	4.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households/ population with a toilet/ latrine facility	4,277	9,842	14,119	15,872	39,395	55,267

Table 16.6 Sanitation service ladder

Percentage distribution of de jure population by type of sanitation service, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	At least basic service ¹	Limited service ²	Unimproved ³	Open defecation	Total	Number of persons
Residence						
Urban	60.1	33.4	5.7	0.8	100.0	15,997
Rural	75.7	7.8	14.4	2.1	100.0	40,240
Province						
City of Kigali	54.4	41.4	3.9	0.3	100.0	7,678
Southern Province	72.5	9.5	16.4	1.5	100.0	12,802
Western Province	76.3	12.2	9.5	1.9	100.0	11,846
Northern Province	78.9	8.7	10.6	1.7	100.0	8,344
Eastern Province	70.5	12.4	14.7	2.4	100.0	15,568
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	54.2	10.8	28.9	6.1	100.0	11,246
Second	74.6	7.7	15.9	1.8	100.0	11,247
Middle	80.3	9.5	9.7	0.5	100.0	11,251
Fourth	71.1	24.7	4.0	0.2	100.0	11,242
Highest	76.1	22.9	1.0	0.0	100.0	11,250
Total	71.3	15.1	11.9	1.7	100.0	56,237

Note: Service ladder concept/definitions are based on the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP).

¹ Defined as use of improved facilities that are not shared with other households. Includes safely managed sanitation service, which is not shown separately.

² Defined as use of improved facilities shared by 2 or more households

³ Use of flush/pour flush toilet not to sewer, septic tank, or pit latrine; pit latrine without a slab/open pit; hanging toilet/latrine; or bucket

Table 16.7 Emptying and removal of waste from on-site sanitation facilities

Percentage distribution of de jure population in households with septic tanks and improved latrines by method of emptying and removal, and percentage of the population with on-site sanitation facilities for which excreta were safely disposed of in situ, percentage with on-site sanitation facilities for which excreta were disposed of unsafely, and percentage with on-site sanitation facilities for which excreta were removed for treatment, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage distribution of methods of emptying and disposal of waste from septic tanks or other on-site sanitation facilities								Percentage of population with on-site sanitation facilities for which:			
	Removed by a service provider to treatment plant	Removed by a service provider, don't know where	Buried in a covered pit	Emptied to uncovered pit, open ground, water body, or elsewhere	Don't know where waste was taken	Never emptied	Don't know if ever emptied	Total	Excreta were safely disposed of in situ ¹	Excreta were disposed of unsafely ²	Excreta were removed for treatment ³	Number of persons with improved on-site sanitation facilities
Sanitation facility type												
Flush to septic tank	5.3	2.7	6.1	0.8	0.0	78.4	6.8	100.0	91.2	0.8	8.0	427
Latrines and other improved facilities	0.5	0.1	5.7	4.5	0.2	85.8	3.1	100.0	94.7	4.5	0.8	47,425
Flush to pit latrine	2.3	0.3	6.0	1.9	0.1	83.4	5.9	100.0	95.3	1.9	2.8	1,458
Ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrine	0.3	0.1	6.2	3.0	0.4	85.4	4.5	100.0	96.2	3.0	0.8	5,532
Pit latrine with slab	0.4	0.1	5.6	4.8	0.2	86.0	2.9	100.0	94.4	4.8	0.7	40,370
Composting toilet	0.0	0.0	41.4	3.4	0.0	55.2	0.0	100.0	96.6	3.4	0.0	65
Residence												
Urban	1.3	0.4	3.7	1.2	0.4	84.0	9.0	100.0	96.7	1.2	2.1	14,258
Rural	0.2	0.0	6.6	5.9	0.1	86.5	0.7	100.0	93.8	5.9	0.3	33,594
Province												
City of Kigali	2.2	0.5	1.4	0.5	0.4	83.1	11.9	100.0	96.4	0.5	3.1	6,946
Southern Province	0.3	0.1	7.3	8.1	0.1	82.5	1.6	100.0	91.4	8.1	0.5	10,406
Western Province	0.4	0.1	8.3	5.9	0.3	82.8	2.2	100.0	93.3	5.9	0.8	10,415
Northern Province	0.2	0.2	8.2	5.4	0.0	85.1	0.9	100.0	94.2	5.4	0.4	7,257
Eastern Province	0.0	0.0	3.3	2.1	0.2	92.5	1.8	100.0	97.7	2.1	0.2	12,828
Wealth quintile												
Lowest	0.3	0.0	4.4	5.0	0.3	88.8	1.2	100.0	94.4	5.0	0.7	7,304
Second	0.1	0.0	6.3	5.7	0.1	86.7	1.1	100.0	94.1	5.7	0.2	9,260
Middle	0.0	0.1	6.7	5.7	0.1	86.0	1.4	100.0	94.1	5.7	0.2	10,100
Fourth	0.6	0.3	6.3	4.6	0.3	82.7	5.3	100.0	94.3	4.6	1.1	10,766
Highest	1.4	0.3	4.7	1.8	0.2	85.6	5.9	100.0	96.2	1.8	2.0	10,423
Total	0.5	0.2	5.7	4.5	0.2	85.7	3.2	100.0	94.6	4.5	0.9	47,852

Note: On-site sanitation facilities are those where excreta are stored in a septic tank, pit latrine, or composting toilet.

¹ Includes septic tanks and latrines in which waste was buried in a covered pit, never emptied, and don't know if ever emptied

² Includes septic tanks and latrines in which waste was emptied to uncovered pits, open ground, water body, or other locations

³ Includes septic tanks and latrines in which waste was removed by a service provider to a treatment plant or an unknown location or was removed by a non-service provider to an unknown location

Table 16.8 Management of household excreta

Percentage distribution of de jure population by management of excreta from household sanitation facilities, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Connected to sewer	Using improved on-site sanitation facilities				Practicing open defecation	Total	Percentage connected to sewer, with safe disposal on-site, or with removal for treatment off-site	Number of persons
		Safe disposal in situ of excreta from on-site sanitation facilities	Unsafe disposal of excreta from on-site sanitation facilities	Removal of excreta for treatment off-site	Using unimproved sanitation facilities				
Residence									
Urban	4.4	86.2	1.1	1.9	5.7	0.8	100.0	92.5	15,997
Rural	0.0	78.3	4.9	0.3	14.4	2.1	100.0	78.6	40,240
Province									
City of Kigali	5.3	87.2	0.5	2.8	3.9	0.3	100.0	95.3	7,678
Southern Province	0.8	74.3	6.6	0.4	16.4	1.5	100.0	75.5	12,802
Western Province	0.6	82.0	5.2	0.7	9.5	1.9	100.0	83.4	11,846
Northern Province	0.7	81.9	4.7	0.4	10.6	1.7	100.0	82.9	8,344
Eastern Province	0.5	80.5	1.7	0.2	14.7	2.4	100.0	81.2	15,568
Wealth quintile									
Lowest	0.0	61.3	3.2	0.4	28.9	6.1	100.0	61.7	11,246
Second	0.0	77.5	4.7	0.1	15.9	1.8	100.0	77.6	11,247
Middle	0.0	84.5	5.1	0.2	9.7	0.5	100.0	84.7	11,251
Fourth	0.0	90.3	4.4	1.1	4.0	0.2	100.0	91.4	11,242
Highest	6.3	89.2	1.7	1.8	1.0	0.0	100.0	97.3	11,250
Total	1.3	80.5	3.8	0.7	11.9	1.7	100.0	82.5	56,237

Note: On-site sanitation facilities are those where excreta are stored in a septic tank, pit latrine, or composting toilet.

Table 16.9 Disposal of children's stools

Percentage distribution of youngest children under age 2 living with their mother by the manner of disposal of the child's last fecal matter, and percentage of children whose stools are disposed of appropriately, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Manner of disposal of children’s stools							Total	Percentage of children whose stools are disposed of appropriately ¹	Number of children
	Child used toilet or latrine	Put/rinsed into toilet or latrine	Buried	Put/rinsed into drain or ditch	Thrown into garbage	Left in the open	Other			
Age of child in months										
0–1	4.1	44.3	2.6	10.4	25.6	6.3	6.6	100.0	48.5	220
2–3	2.0	52.0	5.2	8.2	24.3	4.8	3.6	100.0	54.0	224
4–5	4.2	55.8	3.1	10.2	18.6	4.7	3.5	100.0	60.0	265
6–8	4.6	72.1	2.1	4.2	10.8	4.3	1.9	100.0	76.7	353
9–11	6.6	76.8	1.3	2.9	8.7	0.9	2.7	100.0	83.4	374
12–17	9.5	79.0	1.9	2.5	5.2	1.6	0.2	100.0	88.5	725
18–23	8.5	82.2	2.0	2.5	3.3	1.4	0.1	100.0	90.7	615
6–23	7.8	78.4	1.9	2.9	6.2	1.9	0.9	100.0	86.2	2,066
Type of toilet facility ²										
Improved sanitation facility	7.0	72.0	2.4	4.1	10.9	1.9	1.8	100.0	78.9	2,355
Unimproved facility	5.9	72.4	1.7	6.6	6.6	5.3	1.5	100.0	78.3	354
Open defecation	1.9	46.9	1.8	13.1	14.3	18.1	3.7	100.0	48.8	67
Residence										
Urban	7.0	66.1	2.0	3.3	17.9	2.8	0.9	100.0	73.1	815
Rural	6.6	73.6	2.4	5.2	7.3	2.7	2.2	100.0	80.2	1,960
Province										
City of Kigali	8.4	59.4	0.0	2.6	22.6	6.3	0.8	100.0	67.7	380
Southern Province	6.0	72.2	2.2	5.9	10.2	2.5	1.0	100.0	78.2	605
Western Province	4.7	74.8	2.4	5.7	7.6	2.3	2.5	100.0	79.5	586
Northern Province	6.2	73.8	4.1	2.1	10.4	1.0	2.3	100.0	80.1	380
Eastern Province	8.1	72.8	2.5	5.0	6.9	2.4	2.2	100.0	81.0	824
Mother’s education										
No education	6.0	70.6	4.3	6.9	5.2	5.4	1.6	100.0	76.6	138
Primary	6.3	72.2	2.3	5.6	8.2	3.4	1.9	100.0	78.6	1,674
Secondary	7.9	70.4	2.1	2.9	13.8	1.4	1.6	100.0	78.3	858
More than secondary	3.9	67.8	1.0	0.5	24.3	0.0	2.6	100.0	71.6	106
Wealth quintile										
Lowest	6.2	70.1	2.7	5.9	7.9	5.3	2.0	100.0	76.2	668
Second	7.2	72.4	1.7	5.3	6.7	3.2	3.6	100.0	79.6	570
Middle	7.0	75.8	2.4	5.4	7.4	1.3	0.7	100.0	82.7	527
Fourth	6.5	73.9	2.7	3.6	8.6	2.8	1.9	100.0	80.4	545
Highest	6.9	64.3	1.8	2.2	24.0	0.0	0.8	100.0	71.2	467
Total	6.7	71.4	2.3	4.6	10.4	2.7	1.8	100.0	78.1	2,775

¹ Children's stools are considered to be disposed of appropriately if the child used a toilet or latrine or if the fecal matter was put/rinsed into a toilet or latrine.

² See Table 16.6 for definition of categories.

Table 16.10 Handwashing

Percentage of the de jure population for whom the place most often used for washing hands was observed, by whether the location was fixed or mobile, and total percentage of the de jure population for whom the place for handwashing was observed; among the de jure population for whom the place for handwashing was observed, percentage with water available, percentage with soap available, and percentage with a cleansing agent other than soap available; percentage of the de jure population with a basic handwashing facility; and percentage with a limited handwashing facility, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of de jure population for whom place for washing hands was observed:			Number of persons	Place for handwashing observed and:			Number of persons for whom place for handwashing was observed	Percent-age of the de jure population with a basic hand-washing facility ³	Percent-age of the de jure population with a limited hand-washing facility ⁴	Number of persons for whom a place for hand-washing was observed or with no place for hand-washing in the dwelling, yard, or plot
	Place for hand-washing was a fixed place	Place for hand-washing was mobile	Total		Water available	Soap available ¹	Cleansing agent other than soap available ²				
Residence											
Urban	17.0	24.8	41.9	15,997	68.0	62.8	2.0	6,702	26.7	17.5	15,180
Rural	9.1	33.9	43.0	40,240	51.4	45.9	4.6	17,283	19.2	26.8	37,541
Province											
City of Kigali	18.3	21.2	39.6	7,678	67.8	63.7	1.2	3,038	24.9	16.7	7,297
Southern Province	12.2	30.2	42.3	12,802	57.3	48.4	3.4	5,417	20.4	24.5	12,069
Western Province	9.2	33.2	42.4	11,846	44.9	37.7	9.2	5,019	16.2	28.9	11,145
Northern Province	8.4	39.5	47.9	8,344	55.3	52.4	5.6	3,998	22.9	26.2	8,150
Eastern Province	10.4	31.4	41.8	15,568	58.4	55.2	0.3	6,513	23.7	22.6	14,059
Wealth quintile											
Lowest	5.7	35.1	40.8	11,246	42.9	35.3	5.9	4,587	14.1	30.4	10,315
Second	7.3	32.1	39.3	11,247	47.8	41.5	6.1	4,424	16.0	26.5	10,422
Middle	8.3	33.9	42.2	11,251	51.4	48.4	4.7	4,746	19.9	25.1	10,542
Fourth	9.9	31.5	41.4	11,242	58.0	52.6	2.3	4,650	21.1	22.7	10,624
Highest	25.5	24.0	49.6	11,250	75.6	70.6	1.0	5,579	35.2	16.3	10,818
Total	11.3	31.3	42.6	56,237	56.0	50.6	3.9	23,985	21.4	24.1	52,721

¹ Soap includes soap or detergent in bar, liquid, powder, or paste form.

² Cleansing agents other than soap include locally available materials such as ash, mud, or sand.

³ The availability of a handwashing facility on premises with soap and water

⁴ The availability of a handwashing facility on premises without soap and/or water

Table 16.11 Menstrual hygiene

Among women aged 15–49 years whose most recent menstrual period was in the last year, percentage who used specified materials to collect or absorb blood from the most recent menstrual period, and among women aged 15–49 years whose most recent menstrual period was in the last year and were at home during their last menstrual period, percentage who were able to wash and change in privacy while at home and percentage who were able to both wash and change in privacy and who used appropriate materials during their last menstruation, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Among women whose most recent menstrual period was in the last year, percentage who used the specified materials to collect or absorb blood from most recent menstrual period												Among women whose most recent menstrual period was in the last year and who were at home during their last menstrual period		
Background characteristic	Re-usable sanitary pads	Dis-posable sanitary pads	Tam-pons	Men-strual cup	Cloth	Toilet paper	Cotton wool	Under-wear only	Other	Nothing	Number of women	Percent-age able to wash and change in privacy	Percent-age able to wash and change in privacy and who used appropriate materials during last men-struation ¹	Number of women
Age														
15–19	11.8	77.5	0.3	0.0	11.8	0.1	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.4	2,637	95.2	93.8	2,624
20–24	10.3	77.3	0.1	0.0	13.3	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.3	2,074	96.6	95.1	2,067
25–29	10.9	71.8	0.2	0.0	18.7	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.3	0.3	1,530	95.1	93.6	1,517
30–34	9.1	66.2	0.1	0.1	24.2	0.1	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.6	1,437	95.8	93.3	1,434
35–39	7.7	57.6	0.1	0.0	33.4	0.2	0.1	4.7	0.0	0.4	1,478	93.7	90.1	1,474
40–44	7.3	46.9	0.0	0.0	45.3	0.0	0.0	6.5	0.0	0.6	1,426	94.8	90.5	1,420
45–49	6.9	47.1	0.1	0.0	44.6	0.1	0.0	5.8	0.0	0.5	1,042	94.3	90.2	1,038
Residence														
Urban	10.3	78.8	0.1	0.0	11.5	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.1	0.2	3,919	95.9	94.9	3,886
Rural	9.2	59.9	0.2	0.0	30.8	0.1	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.5	7,705	94.8	91.7	7,688
Province														
City of Kigali	11.2	81.4	0.1	0.0	8.2	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.2	1,959	96.3	95.8	1,931
Southern Province	7.1	62.4	0.2	0.0	29.8	0.0	0.0	5.1	0.0	0.4	2,487	96.2	93.1	2,475
Western Province	6.3	65.5	0.0	0.0	29.8	0.1	0.1	3.7	0.0	0.3	2,399	96.1	93.7	2,392
Northern Province	15.3	58.1	0.1	0.0	27.1	0.1	0.0	3.5	0.0	0.7	1,725	97.2	94.6	1,722
Eastern Province	9.8	65.1	0.3	0.0	24.2	0.1	0.0	4.3	0.0	0.5	3,054	91.8	88.7	3,054
Education														
No education	6.2	37.7	0.0	0.0	54.4	0.0	0.0	6.6	0.0	1.0	703	91.0	87.1	701
Primary	8.9	56.8	0.1	0.0	33.9	0.1	0.0	5.3	0.0	0.6	6,249	94.4	90.7	6,231
Secondary	11.5	82.0	0.2	0.0	7.9	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.2	4,083	96.5	96.0	4,060
More than secondary	7.2	92.4	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	589	98.7	98.5	581
Wealth quintile														
Lowest	5.9	42.3	0.1	0.0	50.2	0.1	0.0	7.6	0.0	0.9	1,976	91.3	86.8	1,970
Second	8.8	53.9	0.1	0.0	36.8	0.1	0.1	5.9	0.0	0.7	2,124	93.7	90.0	2,119
Middle	10.4	62.4	0.3	0.0	28.9	0.1	0.0	3.4	0.0	0.3	2,217	95.7	93.1	2,215
Fourth	12.1	75.2	0.1	0.0	13.5	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.1	0.2	2,390	96.6	95.3	2,380
Highest	9.9	87.3	0.1	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.3	2,916	97.3	96.5	2,890
Total	9.6	66.3	0.1	0.0	24.3	0.1	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.4	11,624	95.2	92.8	11,574

¹ Reusable sanitary pads, disposable sanitary pads, tampons, menstrual cup, cloth, toilet paper, and/or cotton wool



Table 16.12 Having sufficient menstrual materials and not worrying about privacy while changing menstrual materials

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years with a menstrual period in the last year who reported having sufficient menstrual materials to change them as often as they wanted throughout their last menstruation and percentage distribution of women by whether they worried that someone would see them while they were changing menstrual materials at home, and, among women who changed menstrual materials at home, percentage who worried someone would see them while they were changing their menstrual materials according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of women with enough menstrual materials to change them as often as they wanted throughout last period	Percentage distribution of women by whether they worried that someone would see them while they were changing menstrual materials at home				Number of women who reported menstruating in the last 12 months	Percentage of women who did not worry that someone would see them while they were changing menstrual materials at home	Number of women who reported menstruating in the last 12 months and changed menstrual materials at home
		Worried	Did not worry	Did not change any menstrual materials at home	Total			
Age								
15–19	77.6	16.2	83.4	0.4	100.0	2,637	83.7	2,626
20–24	79.7	13.4	86.3	0.4	100.0	2,074	86.6	2,067
25–29	79.4	13.7	85.4	0.9	100.0	1,530	86.1	1,517
30–34	77.1	13.2	86.7	0.1	100.0	1,437	86.8	1,435
35–39	73.8	15.0	84.7	0.3	100.0	1,478	84.9	1,473
40–44	69.4	14.3	85.5	0.2	100.0	1,426	85.7	1,423
45–49	72.8	16.3	83.4	0.3	100.0	1,042	83.6	1,039
Residence								
Urban	83.8	13.9	85.4	0.7	100.0	3,919	86.0	3,890
Rural	72.4	15.0	84.8	0.2	100.0	7,705	85.0	7,690
Province								
City of Kigali	86.5	12.9	85.7	1.4	100.0	1,959	86.9	1,933
Southern Province	75.6	13.6	86.0	0.4	100.0	2,487	86.4	2,477
Western Province	71.7	13.1	86.8	0.1	100.0	2,399	86.9	2,396
Northern Province	79.4	12.9	87.0	0.2	100.0	1,725	87.1	1,722
Eastern Province	72.0	18.8	81.2	0.0	100.0	3,054	81.2	3,053
Education								
No education	63.7	11.9	87.8	0.3	100.0	703	88.1	701
Primary	70.9	16.3	83.5	0.2	100.0	6,249	83.7	6,234
Secondary	83.5	12.9	86.6	0.5	100.0	4,083	87.0	4,064
More than secondary	97.7	12.2	86.5	1.3	100.0	589	87.6	581
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	59.0	15.4	84.3	0.3	100.0	1,976	84.6	1,970
Second	67.1	15.6	84.2	0.2	100.0	2,124	84.4	2,121
Middle	73.4	15.6	84.3	0.1	100.0	2,217	84.4	2,215
Fourth	82.0	14.3	85.3	0.4	100.0	2,390	85.7	2,380
Highest	92.0	12.9	86.3	0.8	100.0	2,916	87.0	2,894
Total	76.2	14.6	85.0	0.4	100.0	11,624	85.3	11,580



Table 16.13 Menstruation-related pain, support, and knowledge

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years with a menstrual period in the last 12 months by whether they were able to reduce their menstruation-related pain when they needed to during their last menstruation, percentage distribution of women by whether they would feel comfortable seeking help from a health care provider if they had a concern about their menstrual period, and percentage distribution of women by whether they knew about menstruation before their first menstrual period, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic					Number of women who reported menstruating in the last 12 months	Percent- age of women who were able to reduce their menstruation-related pain when needed	Number of women in need of reducing menstruation-related pain									Number of women who reported menstruating in the last 12 months
	Menstruation-related pain							Feel comfortable seeking help from a health care provider ¹				Knowledge about menstruation before first menstrual period				
	Able to reduce pain when needed	Not able to reduce pain when needed	Didn't need to reduce pain	Total				Would feel comfortable	Would not feel comfortable	Don't know	Total	Knew about menstruation	Did not know about menstruation	Don't know	Total	
Age																
15–19	15.8	84.0	0.2	100.0	2,637	15.9	2,632	81.3	18.1	0.6	100.0	74.6	25.3	0.2	100.0	2,637
20–24	20.2	79.8	0.0	100.0	2,074	20.2	2,074	87.5	12.4	0.2	100.0	73.5	26.4	0.1	100.0	2,074
25–29	18.6	81.4	0.0	100.0	1,530	18.6	1,530	90.0	10.0	0.0	100.0	67.8	32.0	0.1	100.0	1,530
30–34	13.7	86.3	0.0	100.0	1,437	13.7	1,437	89.3	10.3	0.4	100.0	66.8	33.0	0.2	100.0	1,437
35–39	13.0	87.0	0.0	100.0	1,478	13.0	1,478	88.6	11.3	0.1	100.0	61.3	38.6	0.1	100.0	1,478
40–44	9.0	90.9	0.0	100.0	1,426	9.0	1,426	88.2	11.8	0.0	100.0	55.5	44.4	0.1	100.0	1,426
45–49	13.8	86.2	0.0	100.0	1,042	13.8	1,042	87.6	12.2	0.2	100.0	60.1	39.9	0.0	100.0	1,042
Residence																
Urban	18.3	81.7	0.0	100.0	3,919	18.3	3,918	88.6	11.0	0.4	100.0	69.4	30.4	0.2	100.0	3,919
Rural	13.9	86.1	0.1	100.0	7,705	13.9	7,701	86.0	13.8	0.2	100.0	66.1	33.8	0.1	100.0	7,705
Province																
City of Kigali	19.0	81.0	0.0	100.0	1,959	19.0	1,959	89.7	9.9	0.4	100.0	69.6	30.3	0.1	100.0	1,959
Southern Province	16.4	83.6	0.0	100.0	2,487	16.4	2,486	87.3	12.5	0.2	100.0	64.9	35.1	0.0	100.0	2,487
Western Province	14.5	85.5	0.0	100.0	2,399	14.5	2,398	89.2	10.6	0.2	100.0	64.0	35.8	0.2	100.0	2,399
Northern Province	11.1	88.8	0.1	100.0	1,725	11.1	1,724	91.2	8.8	0.0	100.0	77.5	22.5	0.0	100.0	1,725
Eastern Province	15.3	84.7	0.1	100.0	3,054	15.3	3,052	80.5	19.2	0.3	100.0	64.2	35.5	0.2	100.0	3,054
Education																
No education	8.3	91.7	0.0	100.0	703	8.3	703	82.8	17.1	0.1	100.0	42.2	57.8	0.0	100.0	703
Primary	13.0	87.0	0.1	100.0	6,249	13.0	6,244	86.1	13.7	0.3	100.0	59.2	40.7	0.1	100.0	6,249
Secondary	18.7	81.3	0.0	100.0	4,083	18.7	4,083	88.0	11.7	0.3	100.0	81.3	18.5	0.2	100.0	4,083
More than secondary	25.7	74.3	0.0	100.0	589	25.7	589	92.7	7.3	0.0	100.0	84.1	15.7	0.2	100.0	589
Wealth quintile																
Lowest	10.9	89.0	0.1	100.0	1,976	10.9	1,973	82.4	17.1	0.4	100.0	55.4	44.5	0.1	100.0	1,976
Second	12.3	87.6	0.1	100.0	2,124	12.3	2,122	86.2	13.7	0.1	100.0	63.5	36.5	0.0	100.0	2,124
Middle	12.9	87.1	0.0	100.0	2,217	12.9	2,217	87.1	12.7	0.3	100.0	67.1	32.9	0.0	100.0	2,217
Fourth	16.6	83.4	0.0	100.0	2,390	16.6	2,390	87.6	12.3	0.2	100.0	72.0	27.9	0.2	100.0	2,390
Highest	21.4	78.6	0.0	100.0	2,916	21.4	2,916	89.7	10.0	0.3	100.0	74.1	25.7	0.2	100.0	2,916
Total	15.3	84.6	0.0	100.0	11,624	15.4	11,619	86.9	12.9	0.2	100.0	67.2	32.7	0.1	100.0	11,624

¹ A health care provider could be a school nurse, community health worker, or doctor.



Table 16.14 Participation in activities during menstruation

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years with a menstrual period in the last 12 months by whether they had trouble participating in work, education or training, or social activities due to their last menstruation and percentage of women who did not have trouble participating in work, education/training and social activities due to their last menstruation, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who had trouble participating in activities due to their last period															Percentage of women who did not have trouble participating in work, education/training, and social activities due to their last menstruation	Number of women who reported menstruating in the last 12 months and typically participate in work, education/training, or social activities ²
	Work ¹				Number of women who menstruated in the last 12 months and typically participate in work	Education or training ¹				Number of women who menstruated in the last 12 months and typically participate in education or training	Social activities ¹				Number of women who menstruated in the last 12 months and typically participate in social activities		
	Had trouble	No trouble	Not sure	Total		Had trouble	No trouble	Not sure	Total		Had trouble	No trouble	Not sure	Total			
Age																	
15–19	20.3	79.5	0.2	100.0	2,340	15.1	84.7	0.2	100.0	1,818	17.2	82.7	0.2	100.0	2,057	75.8	2,596
20–24	30.3	69.7	0.0	100.0	1,989	15.7	84.2	0.1	100.0	1,146	23.1	76.7	0.2	100.0	1,584	67.5	2,048
25–29	23.7	76.3	0.0	100.0	1,503	8.7	91.3	0.0	100.0	797	18.1	81.9	0.0	100.0	1,196	75.1	1,518
30–34	20.6	79.4	0.0	100.0	1,427	8.2	91.7	0.2	100.0	747	14.8	85.2	0.0	100.0	1,140	78.3	1,432
35–39	18.3	81.7	0.0	100.0	1,448	8.0	92.0	0.0	100.0	776	15.3	84.7	0.0	100.0	1,161	80.8	1,461
40–44	17.7	82.2	0.1	100.0	1,409	7.9	91.6	0.5	100.0	718	14.6	85.4	0.1	100.0	1,115	80.7	1,418
45–49	18.5	81.4	0.1	100.0	1,026	8.7	91.1	0.1	100.0	534	15.2	84.7	0.1	100.0	819	79.6	1,032
Residence																	
Urban	18.7	81.3	0.0	100.0	3,785	10.3	89.6	0.1	100.0	2,258	14.9	85.0	0.1	100.0	3,067	79.4	3,885
Rural	23.4	76.5	0.1	100.0	7,355	12.1	87.7	0.2	100.0	4,278	18.5	81.4	0.1	100.0	6,005	74.4	7,620
Province																	
City of Kigali	18.4	81.6	0.0	100.0	1,900	10.5	89.5	0.0	100.0	1,067	16.8	83.1	0.1	100.0	1,526	80.0	1,946
Southern Province	19.9	80.1	0.0	100.0	2,385	9.1	90.8	0.1	100.0	1,421	14.2	85.8	0.0	100.0	1,942	77.5	2,461
Western Province	23.1	76.9	0.0	100.0	2,311	12.7	87.3	0.0	100.0	1,257	17.5	82.4	0.1	100.0	1,830	75.1	2,386
Northern Province	21.0	78.9	0.1	100.0	1,640	10.3	89.2	0.5	100.0	987	17.3	82.7	0.1	100.0	1,371	77.7	1,696
Eastern Province	25.2	74.6	0.2	100.0	2,905	13.8	86.0	0.2	100.0	1,804	20.0	79.9	0.1	100.0	2,404	72.4	3,016
Education																	
No education	20.1	79.8	0.2	100.0	690	10.6	89.4	0.0	100.0	326	15.6	84.4	0.0	100.0	519	78.5	696
Primary	23.0	76.9	0.1	100.0	6,089	9.4	90.4	0.2	100.0	3,173	18.4	81.6	0.1	100.0	4,836	75.4	6,186
Secondary	21.5	78.5	0.1	100.0	3,795	13.8	86.1	0.1	100.0	2,589	16.7	83.1	0.1	100.0	3,230	75.8	4,039
More than secondary	13.7	86.3	0.0	100.0	567	13.7	86.0	0.3	100.0	447	12.1	87.9	0.0	100.0	488	82.8	583
Wealth quintile																	
Lowest	23.9	75.9	0.2	100.0	1,916	10.8	88.9	0.3	100.0	1,003	19.5	80.4	0.1	100.0	1,494	73.7	1,956
Second	22.7	77.3	0.1	100.0	2,040	9.9	89.9	0.3	100.0	1,162	17.0	82.9	0.1	100.0	1,660	75.2	2,101
Middle	25.1	74.9	0.0	100.0	2,099	12.4	87.6	0.0	100.0	1,239	19.4	80.6	0.0	100.0	1,729	73.5	2,192
Fourth	22.6	77.4	0.1	100.0	2,282	12.8	87.0	0.1	100.0	1,354	18.4	81.4	0.2	100.0	1,918	75.3	2,361
Highest	16.8	83.2	0.0	100.0	2,804	11.2	88.6	0.1	100.0	1,777	13.5	86.5	0.0	100.0	2,272	81.1	2,894
Total	21.8	78.1	0.1	100.0	11,141	11.5	88.4	0.2	100.0	6,535	17.3	82.6	0.1	100.0	9,073	76.1	11,505

¹ Women who do not normally participate in the activity are excluded from the denominator.

² Excludes women who reported that they do not usually participate in any of the following activities: Work, education and training, and social activities outside of work

Key Findings

- **Disability by domain:** 13% of de facto household members aged 5 years and older experience some level of difficulty in at least one functional domain, while 6% have a lot of difficulty or cannot function at all in at least one domain.
- **Disability by age:** 2% to 4% of de facto household members aged 5–39 years have a lot of difficulty or cannot function at all in at least one domain, as compared with 7% of those aged 40–49 years, 15% of those aged 50–59 years, and 32% of those aged 60 years and above.
- **Disability by marital status:** Widowed women and men are more likely to have difficulty in each of the domains than their counterparts in the other marital status categories. For example, 61% of women and 49% of men who are widowed have difficulty seeing, and 44% of widowed women and 37% of widowed men have difficulty with walking or climbing steps.

The 2025 RDHS included The DHS Program’s Disability Module, a series of questions based on the Washington Group on Disability Statistics (WG) questions, which are themselves based on the framework of the World Health Organization’s International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health. The questions address six core functional domains—seeing, hearing, communication, cognition, walking, and self-care—and provide basic necessary information on disability comparable to data being collected worldwide via the WG disability tools.

17.1 Disability by Domain and Age

The respondent to the Household Questionnaire provided information for all household members and visitors regarding whether they experienced no difficulty, some difficulty, a lot of difficulty, or complete inability to function in each specified domain. The results, based on a sample of 48,075 people, are presented in **Table 17.1** for the de facto household population aged 5 years and older.

Functional domains

Seeing, hearing, communicating, remembering or concentrating, walking or climbing steps, and washing all over or dressing.

Sample: De facto household population aged 5 years and older

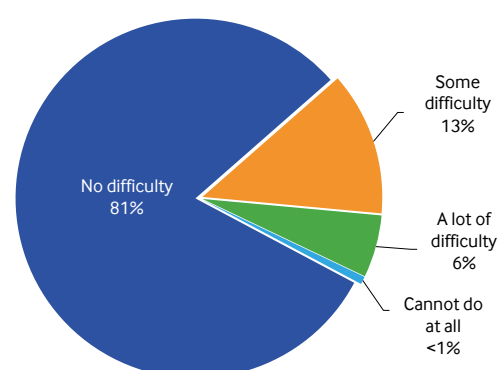
Eighty-one percent of de facto household members aged 5 years and older have no difficulty in any of the functional domains. Overall, 13% of de facto household members aged 5 years and older experience some level of difficulty in at least one domain. Six percent of de facto household members either have a lot of difficulty or cannot function at all in at least one domain (**Table 17.1** and **Figure 17.1**).

Among household residents aged 60 years and older, 72% are reported to have difficulty in at least one domain: 40% have some difficulty, 29% have a lot of difficulty, and 3% cannot function at all in at least one domain.

Severe disability increases with age. For instance, approximately 2% to 4% of de facto household members below age 40 experience a lot of difficulty or cannot function at all in at least one domain, as compared with 7% of those aged 40–49 years, 15% of those aged 50–59 years, and 32% of those aged 60 years and older.

Figure 17.1 Degree of difficulty in functional domains

Percentage distribution of de facto household population aged 5 years and over



17.2 Disability among Adults by Other Background Characteristics

Functional domains

Seeing, hearing, communicating, remembering or concentrating, walking or climbing steps, and washing all over or dressing.

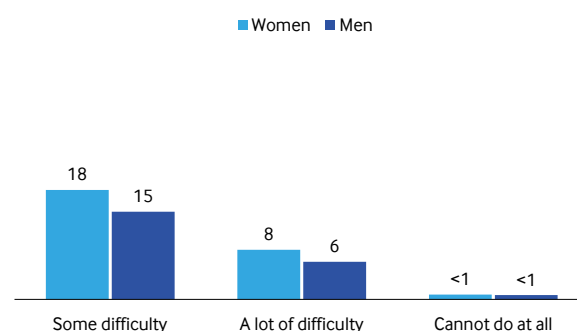
Sample: De facto household population aged 15 years and older

Tables 17.2.1 and **17.2.2** present disability data for de facto household members aged 15 years and older, disaggregated by background characteristics. Seventy-three percent of women and 79% of men report no difficulty in any domain. Difficulty with seeing is the most common type of difficulty in the population, affecting 20% of women and 15% of men. Difficulty with walking or climbing steps is next most common, reported by 11% of women and 7% of men. Overall, 18% of women and 15% of men experience some difficulty in at least one domain, 8% of women and 6% of men experience a lot of difficulty in at least one domain, and less than 1% of women and men cannot function at all in at least one domain (**Figure 17.2**).

There are differences by province in reported functional domain difficulties. For example, 24% of women and 18% of men in the Southern Province have difficulty seeing, as compared with 12% of women and 8% of men in the City of Kigali.

Figure 17.2 Level of difficulty in at least one domain

Percentage distribution of women and men aged 15 years and above



List of Tables

For more information on disability, see the following tables:

- **Table 17.1** Disability by domain and age
- **Table 17.2.1** Disability among adults according to background characteristics: Women
- **Table 17.2.2** Disability among adults according to background characteristics: Men

Table 17.1 Disability by domain and age

Percentage distribution of the de facto household population aged 5 years and over by degree of difficulty in functioning according to domain, and percentage distribution by highest degree of difficulty in functioning in at least one domain by age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Domain and age	Degree of difficulty					Total	A lot of difficulty or cannot do at all	Number of persons
	No difficulty	Some difficulty	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	Don't know			
Domain								
Difficulty seeing	86.8	9.9	3.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	3.2	48,075
Difficulty hearing	96.2	2.8	0.9	0.1	0.0	100.0	1.0	48,075
Difficulty communicating	98.8	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.0	100.0	0.5	48,075
Difficulty remembering or concentrating	94.7	3.8	1.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	1.4	48,075
Difficulty walking or climbing steps	93.2	4.2	2.2	0.3	0.0	100.0	2.5	48,075
Difficulty washing all over or dressing	97.9	1.3	0.6	0.3	0.0	100.0	0.9	48,075
Difficulty in at least one domain ¹								
5–9	93.0	4.6	1.7	0.6	0.1	100.0	2.3	7,480
10–14	93.1	4.5	1.8	0.4	0.2	100.0	2.2	6,815
15–19	92.2	5.1	2.1	0.4	0.2	100.0	2.5	5,732
20–29	90.3	7.2	1.9	0.4	0.2	100.0	2.3	8,314
30–39	85.7	10.7	3.1	0.5	0.1	100.0	3.5	6,971
40–49	71.9	21.0	6.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	7.0	5,660
50–59	48.2	36.8	14.3	0.6	0.1	100.0	14.9	3,110
60+	27.6	40.2	29.0	3.1	0.1	100.0	32.2	3,985
Aged 15 years and over	75.3	16.5	7.3	0.8	0.1	100.0	8.1	33,772
Total	80.6	12.9	5.6	0.7	0.1	100.0	6.3	48,075

Note: Total includes 8 individuals with information missing on age.

¹ If a person was reported to have difficulty in more than one domain, only the highest level of difficulty is shown.



Table 17.2.1 Disability among adults according to background characteristics: Women

Percentage of the de facto female household population aged 15 years and over who have difficulty in functioning according to domain, by the highest degree of difficulty in at least one domain, and percentage who have a lot of difficulty or cannot function at all in more than one domain, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	No difficulty in any domain	Domain						Difficulty in at least one domain ¹				A lot of difficulty or cannot function at all in more than one domain	Number of women
		Seeing	Hearing	Communicating	Remembering or concentrating	Walking or climbing steps	Washing all over or dressing	Some difficulty	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	A lot of difficulty or cannot do at all		
Marital status													
Never married	88.6	6.6	1.9	1.2	2.9	2.4	1.1	7.2	3.1	0.9	4.0	1.1	5,674
Married/living together	74.4	18.4	3.7	0.6	6.1	8.5	1.4	19.0	6.1	0.4	6.5	1.4	9,376
Divorced or separated	63.6	26.3	6.0	1.5	9.0	13.3	2.4	24.7	11.1	0.6	11.7	2.0	1,389
Widowed	27.9	60.6	21.6	3.8	28.2	44.2	12.0	39.4	29.7	3.0	32.7	15.5	2,103
Residence													
Urban	79.1	16.5	3.1	0.7	4.7	6.9	1.7	14.3	6.0	0.5	6.5	1.9	5,470
Rural	70.0	21.7	6.3	1.5	9.2	12.8	3.0	19.7	9.2	1.0	10.1	3.4	13,072
Province													
City of Kigali	85.1	11.9	2.0	0.4	2.9	5.1	1.1	9.8	4.6	0.4	5.1	1.6	2,642
Southern Province	67.0	23.6	6.7	1.8	11.2	13.8	2.9	20.9	10.9	1.1	12.0	3.9	4,212
Western Province	72.3	20.2	5.6	1.4	6.7	11.3	3.0	19.1	7.7	0.6	8.3	2.6	3,890
Northern Province	71.0	22.4	5.4	1.0	6.8	13.4	2.7	18.6	9.3	0.9	10.2	3.2	2,827
Eastern Province	72.1	20.3	5.7	1.1	9.1	10.3	2.7	19.2	7.7	0.9	8.6	2.9	4,969
Education													
No education	44.6	41.9	17.5	4.4	22.1	32.2	9.8	29.4	22.5	3.4	25.9	12.0	2,656
Primary	72.1	20.2	4.6	1.0	7.5	10.3	1.9	19.8	7.4	0.6	8.0	2.0	10,188
Secondary	87.3	9.4	1.1	0.2	1.8	2.4	0.5	9.5	2.9	0.1	3.0	0.4	4,959
More than secondary	83.5	14.2	0.3	0.0	0.8	2.2	0.3	12.4	3.9	0.0	3.9	0.3	726
Wealth quintile													
Lowest	66.1	23.5	9.0	2.3	12.9	15.6	4.0	21.4	11.3	1.1	12.4	4.5	3,610
Second	70.5	21.4	6.9	1.3	8.8	12.4	3.2	19.3	9.1	0.9	10.1	3.4	3,683
Middle	71.7	20.9	5.3	1.2	7.6	11.8	2.4	19.5	7.9	0.9	8.7	2.8	3,649
Fourth	74.9	19.4	3.5	0.6	5.9	9.1	1.8	16.9	7.4	0.6	8.0	2.3	3,654
Highest	79.6	16.0	2.4	0.8	4.4	6.7	1.6	14.0	5.7	0.6	6.3	1.8	3,945
Total	72.7	20.2	5.4	1.2	7.8	11.0	2.6	18.1	8.2	0.8	9.1	2.9	18,541

Note: Total includes 12 women with information missing on education.

¹ If a person was reported to have difficulty in more than one domain, only the highest level of difficulty is shown.

Table 17.2.2 Disability among adults according to background characteristics: Men

Percentage of the de facto male household population aged 15 years and over who have difficulty in functioning according to domain, by the highest degree of difficulty in at least one domain, and percentage who have a lot of difficulty or cannot function at all in more than one domain, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	No difficulty in any domain	Domain						Difficulty in at least one domain ¹				A lot of difficulty or cannot function at all in more than one domain	Number of men
		Seeing	Hearing	Communicating	Remembering or concentrating	Walking or climbing steps	Washing all over or dressing	Some difficulty	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	A lot of difficulty or cannot do at all		
Marital status													
Never married	91.2	4.0	1.5	1.6	2.6	1.8	1.0	5.6	2.3	0.8	3.1	1.0	5,923
Married/living together	71.5	20.5	5.1	1.1	6.5	9.6	2.2	19.6	8.2	0.6	8.7	2.2	8,701
Divorced or separated	67.4	21.1	6.8	0.3	10.7	11.9	3.2	22.4	9.1	0.7	9.8	3.9	390
Widowed	33.4	49.2	23.0	5.3	24.0	36.9	13.2	36.0	26.9	3.7	30.6	12.7	224
Residence													
Urban	83.3	11.3	2.5	1.0	3.3	4.5	1.4	11.7	4.0	0.8	4.8	1.4	4,575
Rural	76.5	16.0	4.7	1.5	6.3	8.1	2.1	15.6	7.1	0.7	7.8	2.1	10,664
Province													
City of Kigali	87.7	7.9	1.5	1.0	2.3	3.2	1.1	8.4	2.9	0.7	3.6	1.3	2,400
Southern Province	72.8	17.9	5.6	1.9	8.0	7.9	2.2	17.7	8.6	0.9	9.4	2.4	3,483
Western Province	78.0	15.0	3.9	1.2	4.5	8.1	2.0	15.0	6.3	0.6	6.8	1.9	2,973
Northern Province	79.4	14.5	3.8	0.8	4.2	8.0	1.5	14.7	5.3	0.6	5.9	1.6	2,251
Eastern Province	77.9	15.3	4.4	1.6	6.1	7.2	2.3	14.7	6.4	0.8	7.2	2.1	4,131
Education													
No education	57.8	28.7	14.2	4.8	12.6	18.4	5.2	24.8	14.4	2.9	17.3	7.7	1,407
Primary	76.9	15.5	3.8	1.2	6.0	7.6	1.9	15.8	6.5	0.6	7.2	1.7	9,179
Secondary	88.7	7.7	1.4	0.7	1.9	2.3	0.9	8.0	2.9	0.3	3.2	0.6	3,834
More than secondary	84.6	12.4	0.8	0.5	1.1	2.6	0.9	12.2	2.6	0.3	2.9	0.4	788
Missing	(82.2)	(6.5)	(7.3)	(0.0)	(10.6)	(7.4)	(3.3)	(10.5)	(7.4)	(0.0)	(7.4)	(3.3)	30
Wealth quintile													
Lowest	72.8	17.3	5.8	2.0	9.6	9.8	3.2	16.6	9.6	0.9	10.4	3.0	2,745
Second	76.6	15.4	5.6	1.5	5.6	7.9	1.9	15.4	7.1	0.8	7.9	2.1	2,834
Middle	77.6	15.7	4.5	1.3	5.4	8.0	1.8	14.9	6.7	0.8	7.4	2.2	3,029
Fourth	80.9	12.9	2.9	1.1	4.2	6.2	1.6	13.9	4.6	0.6	5.2	1.4	3,196
Highest	83.2	12.2	1.9	1.1	2.9	3.9	1.4	12.1	3.7	0.7	4.4	1.2	3,434
Total	78.5	14.6	4.0	1.4	5.4	7.0	1.9	14.5	6.2	0.7	6.9	1.9	15,239

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ If a person was reported to have difficulty in more than one domain, only the highest level of difficulty is shown.

Key Findings

- **HPV vaccination coverage:** 87% of women aged 15–17 years have received one or more HPV vaccinations.
- **Source of vaccination:** 93% of women aged 15–17 years received their HPV vaccinations at school, while 6% were vaccinated at a health facility and 1% received their vaccinations elsewhere.

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a cause of cervical cancer and genital warts. The HPV vaccine, recommended in Rwanda at age 12, protects children from these diseases. It is advised that all preteen girls receive the vaccine to prevent HPV-related cancers.

A highly effective vaccine that protects against the most common types of HPV is now available in Rwanda. The HPV vaccine offered in the national program is the quadrivalent (HPV4) vaccine, also known as Gardasil, which protects against four types of HPV (6, 11, 16, and 18). The vaccine is administered to girls aged 12 years. The vaccine was introduced nationwide in January 2011 and is primarily administered in schools. In early 2026, Rwanda plans to transition to the Gardasil 9 vaccine for broader protection against 9 strains of HPV.

18.1 HPV Vaccination Coverage

HPV vaccination coverage

Percentage of women aged 15–17 years who received any HPV vaccine and who had ever had an HPV vaccination card.

Sample: Women aged 15–17 years

The DHS Program does not interview children who are within the target age range for the HPV vaccine. Instead, interviews are conducted with women aged 15–17 years regarding HPV vaccinations they may have received when they were aged 9–14 years. These respondents may have received their HPV vaccinations several years before the date of the interview.

Among women aged 15–17 years, 87% have received one or more HPV vaccinations; 17% have received only one dose, while 69% have received two doses (**Table 18.1**). Among women who have received any HPV vaccinations, 43% have ever had an HPV vaccination card.

HPV vaccination coverage is lower among women in the Northern Province (38%) than among women in the other provinces (41%–46%). Also, coverage is lower among women in the lowest wealth quintile (33%) than among those in the other wealth quintiles (43%–46%).



18.2 Source of HPV Vaccination

Source of HPV vaccination

Among women aged 15–17 years who received any HPV vaccinations, percentage distribution by place of most recent HPV vaccination.

Sample: Women aged 15–17 years who received any HPV vaccinations

Women aged 15–17 years who received an HPV vaccination were asked about the place where they received the vaccination. Most women received their HPV vaccinations at school (93%), while 6% were vaccinated at a health facility and 1% received their vaccinations elsewhere (**Table 18.2**).

List of Tables

For more information on HPV vaccination, see the following tables:

- **Table 18.1 HPV vaccination coverage**
- **Table 18.2 Source of HPV vaccinations**

Table 18.1 HPV vaccination coverage

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–17 years by number of doses of HPV vaccine received, percentage who have received any HPV vaccinations, and percentage who ever had an HPV vaccination card, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage distribution of women aged 15–17 years by number of doses of HPV vaccine received:					Percentage who received any HPV vaccinations ²	Percentage who ever had an HPV vaccination card ³	Number of women
	None ¹	1	2	Don't know number of doses	Total			
Age								
15	11.8	20.5	67.6	0.2	100.0	88.2	41.1	561
16	12.4	17.2	70.1	0.3	100.0	87.6	43.8	613
17	15.3	14.5	70.2	0.0	100.0	84.7	44.3	575
Residence								
Urban	16.4	15.2	68.2	0.2	100.0	83.6	44.3	477
Rural	12.0	18.2	69.7	0.1	100.0	88.0	42.6	1,272
Province								
City of Kigali	18.6	16.2	64.7	0.5	100.0	81.4	40.5	206
Southern Province	11.7	18.4	69.6	0.2	100.0	88.3	42.5	397
Western Province	11.9	17.9	70.0	0.3	100.0	88.1	44.7	366
Northern Province	12.3	14.9	72.8	0.0	100.0	87.7	38.3	239
Eastern Province	13.4	17.8	68.7	0.0	100.0	86.6	45.5	541
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	22.7	17.6	59.7	0.0	100.0	77.3	33.2	311
Second	10.1	18.0	71.4	0.5	100.0	89.9	45.5	369
Middle	6.2	19.3	74.5	0.0	100.0	93.8	43.2	359
Fourth	10.7	17.4	71.9	0.0	100.0	89.3	46.2	347
Highest	17.3	14.6	67.7	0.3	100.0	82.7	45.9	363
Total	13.2	17.4	69.3	0.2	100.0	86.8	43.1	1,749

HPV = Human papillomavirus

¹ Includes women who don't know if they received an HPV vaccination

² Includes women who don't know how many doses of HPV vaccine they received

³ Women who did not receive an HPV vaccination or who did not know if they received an HPV vaccination are assumed not to have had an HPV vaccination card.



Table 18.2 Source of HPV vaccinations

Among women aged 15–17 years who received any HPV vaccinations, percentage distribution by source of most recent HPV vaccination, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Source of most recent HPV vaccination					Total	Number of women who received any HPV vaccinations
	Public health facility	Private health facility	School	Other	Don't know		
Age							
15	3.2	0.2	96.6	0.0	0.0	100.0	495
16	5.2	0.2	92.8	1.6	0.2	100.0	537
17	8.6	0.0	89.5	1.9	0.0	100.0	487
HPV vaccination card							
Ever had card	7.9	0.3	90.5	1.3	0.0	100.0	753
Never had card	3.4	0.0	95.4	1.0	0.1	100.0	766
Number of doses received							
1	9.7	0.2	88.3	1.7	0.0	100.0	304
2	4.7	0.1	94.2	1.0	0.0	100.0	1,212
Don't know number of doses	*	*	*	*	*	100.0	3
Residence							
Urban	6.5	0.2	92.0	1.0	0.3	100.0	399
Rural	5.4	0.1	93.4	1.2	0.0	100.0	1,120
Province							
City of Kigali	5.5	0.0	92.2	1.7	0.6	100.0	168
Southern Province	6.2	0.0	92.8	1.1	0.0	100.0	351
Western Province	5.0	0.2	94.1	0.7	0.0	100.0	323
Northern Province	11.9	0.0	87.6	0.5	0.0	100.0	210
Eastern Province	3.0	0.3	95.1	1.6	0.0	100.0	468
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	4.9	0.0	93.1	1.9	0.0	100.0	241
Second	5.4	0.4	93.6	0.7	0.0	100.0	332
Middle	5.3	0.0	93.5	1.2	0.0	100.0	337
Fourth	6.4	0.2	92.0	1.3	0.0	100.0	310
Highest	6.1	0.0	92.6	0.9	0.3	100.0	300
Total	5.7	0.1	93.0	1.2	0.1	100.0	1,519

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Key Findings

- **Experience of violence:** 33% of women and 22% of men aged 15–49 years have experienced physical violence at some point since age 15.
- **Controlling behaviours:** 54% of women and 45% of men who have ever had a spouse/intimate partner report that they have experienced at least one specific controlling behaviour by their current or most recent spouse/intimate partner.
- **Violence by current or most recent spouse/intimate partner:** 39% of women and 23% of men who have ever had a spouse/intimate partner report having experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence by their current or most recent husband/intimate partner, and 30% of women and 17% of men experienced such violence in the 12 months preceding the survey.
- **Injuries due to intimate partner violence:** Among ever married/partnered women and men who experienced intimate partner physical or sexual violence in the 12 months preceding the survey, 43% of the women and 41% of the men sustained an injury.
- **Help seeking:** 41% of women and 28% of men who have ever experienced physical or sexual violence have sought help to stop the violence.

Gender-based violence is defined by the United Nations as any act of violence that results in physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, girls, men, or boys, as well as threats of such acts, coercion, or the arbitrary deprivation of liberty. Increasing research has highlighted the health burdens, intergenerational effects, and demographic consequences of such violence (United Nations 2006).

A common form of gender-based violence is intimate partner violence, which refers to behaviour within an intimate relationship that causes physical, sexual, or psychological harm and includes acts of physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse, and controlling behaviour. This definition of intimate partner violence covers violence by both current and former spouses and partners.¹ This chapter focuses on intimate partner violence and other forms of domestic violence.

Historically, The Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Program has collected detailed information on intimate partner violence experienced only by ever-married women, defined as women who are currently married or living with a man as if married, or women who were formerly married or lived with a man as if married. More recently, the questionnaire module used to capture intimate partner violence in DHS surveys was revised to also capture intimate partner violence experienced by never-married women who reported having a current or former intimate partner. In the 2025 RDHS, the revised version of the domestic violence questionnaire module was used for the first time; therefore, indicators on intimate partner violence are reported for women who have ever had

¹ <https://apps.who.int/violence-info/intimate-partner-violence>

a husband or other intimate partner. In the context of the revised questionnaire module and this report, the term 'boyfriend' excludes anyone reported as an intimate partner. Given these changes, when examining trends in intimate partner violence, only the estimates provided separately for ever-married women and women living with a man as if married should be compared with corresponding estimates from previous surveys.

In the 2025 RDHS the module of questions on domestic violence was implemented in accordance with the World Health Organization's ethical guidelines for the collection of information on domestic violence (WHO 2001) for women and men. The domestic violence module for men was implemented in 50% of the households selected for the men's survey, while the domestic violence module for women was implemented in 50% of the households not selected for the men's survey. In households with more than one eligible woman or man, one respondent was randomly selected. The module was administered only when complete privacy could be obtained; privacy could not be obtained in less than 1% of selected women and men, who were not interviewed. As a result, 5,267 women aged 15–49 years and 4,919 men aged 15–59 years were successfully interviewed for the domestic violence module. Specially constructed weights were used to adjust for the selection of only one woman or man per household and to ensure that the domestic violence subsample was nationally representative.

19.1 Measurement of Violence

Terminology for this chapter

Husband: a man whom a woman is married to or living with as if married

Wife: a woman whom a man is married to or living with as if married

Intimate partner: a woman or man with whom a never-married woman or man is in a relationship that involves physical and/or emotional intimacy and for which the relationship is or is expected to be long-lasting. As defined for the purposes of this chapter, an intimate partner is not a husband/wife, a man/woman with whom the respondent is living, a boyfriend/girlfriend with whom the respondent has a casual relationship, or a man/woman with whom the respondent has a one-time encounter.

Husband/intimate partner: the current husband for currently married women; the most recent husband for divorced, separated, or widowed women; the current intimate partner for never-married women who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married women who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past

Wife/intimate partner: the current wife for currently married men; the most recent wife for divorced, separated, or widowed men; the current intimate partner for never-married men who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married men who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past

Boyfriend: a man with whom a woman has a casual relationship and whom she did not mention as an intimate partner

Girlfriend: a woman with whom a man has a casual relationship and whom he did not mention as an intimate partner.

In the 2025 RDHS, information was obtained from women aged 15–49 years and men aged 15–59 years on their experience of violence committed by any perpetrator, including current and former husbands/wives or other intimate partners. To capture intimate partner violence, ever-married women and men were asked about their experience of violence committed by their current and former husbands/wives/live-in partners and, if applicable, never-married women and men were asked about their experience of violence committed by their current and former intimate partners. More specifically, intimate partner violence was measured by asking women and men if their current or former husbands/wives/intimate partners ever did the following:



Physical violence: pushed you, shook you, or threw something at you; slapped you; twisted your arm or pulled your hair; punched you with their fist or with something that could hurt you; kicked you, dragged you, or beat you up; choked you or burned you on purpose; or attacked you with a knife, gun, or other weapon

Sexual violence: physically forced you to have sexual intercourse with them when you did not want to, physically forced you to perform any other sexual acts you did not want to, or forced you with threats or in any other way to perform sexual acts you did not want to

Emotional violence: said or did something to humiliate you in front of others, threatened to hurt or harm you or someone you care about, or insulted you or made you feel bad about yourself

Information was also obtained from all women and men about physical violence committed by anyone other than a husband/wife/intimate partner at any time since they were aged 15 years (hitting, slapping, kicking, or something else to hurt them physically). Similarly, women and men were asked if they had experienced sexual violence committed by anyone other than a husband/wife/intimate partner. Specifically, they were asked whether, at any time in their life, whether as a child or as an adult, they had been forced to have sexual intercourse or to perform any other sexual acts when they did not want to. Additionally, women who had ever been pregnant were asked about their experiences of physical violence during pregnancy.

19.2 Experience of Physical Violence

Physical violence by any perpetrator

Percentage of women/men who have experienced any physical violence (committed by a husband/wife/intimate partner or anyone else) since age 15 and in the 12 months before the survey

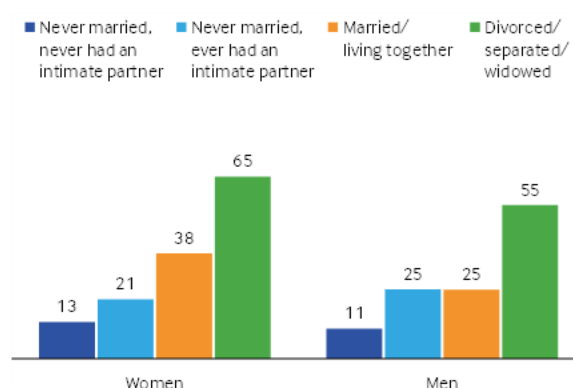
Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

Among women and men aged 15–49 years, 33% of women and 22% of men have experienced physical violence at some point since age 15.

Seventeen percent of women and 8% of men experienced physical violence in the 12 months preceding the survey (**Table 19.1.1** and **19.1.2**). **Figure 19.1** shows the experience of physical violence by marital status.

Trends: The percentage of women who have experienced physical violence at some point since age 15 has slightly decreased between 2019–20 and 2025, from 37% to 33%.

Figure 19.1 Experience of physical violence by marital status



19.2.1 Perpetrators of Physical Violence

Among women who have ever been married or have ever had an intimate partner and who have experienced physical violence at some point since age 15, the most common perpetrators of violence were current husbands/intimate partners (53%) and former husbands/intimate partners (28%). Among never-married women and women who have never had an intimate partner, the most common perpetrators were mothers/stepmothers (29%), fathers/stepfathers (28%), teachers (24%), and brothers/sisters (22%) (**Table 19.2**).

Among men who have ever been married or have ever had an intimate partner and who have experienced physical violence at some point since age 15, the most common perpetrators of violence were unidentified persons (other) (32%), current wives/intimate partners (19%), and former wives/intimate partners (14%). Among never-married men and men who have never had an intimate partner, the most common perpetrators were unidentified persons (other) (34%), schoolmates/classmates (18%), teachers (13%), and fathers/stepfathers (12%) (**Table 19.2**).

19.2.2 Experience of Physical Violence During Pregnancy

Physical violence during pregnancy

Percentage of women who have experienced physical violence (committed by a husband, intimate partner, or anyone else) during any pregnancy

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years who have ever been pregnant

In Rwanda, 8% of women aged 15–49 years who have ever been pregnant have experienced physical violence during a pregnancy (**Table 19.3**).

19.3 Experience of Sexual Violence

Sexual violence by any perpetrator

Percentage of women/men who have experienced any sexual violence (committed by a husband/wife/intimate partner or anyone else) ever and in the 12 months before the survey

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years

19.3.1 Prevalence of Sexual Violence

Among women aged 15–49 years, 19% have ever experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator, and 8% experienced sexual violence in the 12 months preceding the survey. Among men, 5% have ever experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator, and 1% experienced sexual violence in the 12 months preceding the survey (**Table 19.4**).

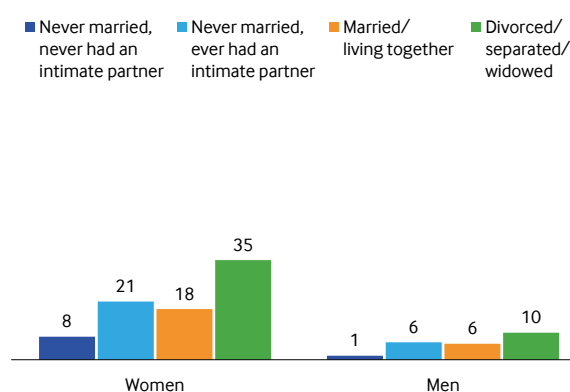
Experience of sexual violence is higher among divorced, separated, or widowed women (35%) than among currently married women and never-married women who have ever had an intimate partner (18% and 21%, respectively); sexual violence is lowest among never-married women who have never had an intimate partner (8%) (**Table 19.4** and **Figure 19.2**).

Trends: The percentage of women who have ever experienced sexual violence has slightly decreased from 23% in 2019–20 to 19% in 2025.

19.3.2 Perpetrators of Sexual Violence

Among women aged 15–49 years who have ever been married or ever had an intimate partner and who have experienced sexual violence, the most common perpetrators were current husbands/intimate partners (52%),

Figure 19.2 Experience of sexual violence by marital status



former husbands/intimate partners (14%), and current or former boyfriends (17%). Among men, the most common perpetrators were current wives/intimate partners (36%), former wives/intimate partners (15%), family friends (15%), and current or former girlfriends (14%) (**Table 19.5**).

19.3.3 Experience of Sexual Violence by a Non-intimate Partner

In Rwanda, 11% of women aged 15–49 years have ever experienced sexual violence by a non-intimate partner, and about 1% experienced such violence in the 12 months preceding the survey. Among men, 4% have ever experienced sexual violence by a non-intimate partner, and less than 1% experienced such violence in the 12 months preceding the survey (**Table 19.6**).

19.3.4 Age at First Experience of Sexual Violence

Among women, 2% first experienced sexual violence by age 15, 6% by age 18, and 10% by age 22. Among men, approximately 1% first experienced such violence by age 18 and 3% by age 22 (**Table 19.7**).

19.4 Experience of Different Forms of Violence

Physical and sexual violence does not always occur in isolation; rather, women or men can experience a combination of forms of violence. More than a third of women (39%) have experienced physical or sexual violence: 21% have experienced physical violence only, 7% have experienced sexual violence only, and 12% have experienced both physical and sexual violence. Twenty-five percent of men have experienced physical or sexual violence: 19% have experienced physical violence only, 3% have experienced sexual violence only, and 3% have experienced both physical and sexual violence (**Table 19.8**).

19.5 Forms of Controlling Behaviour and Intimate Partner Violence

Controlling behaviour

Percentage of women/men whose current or most recent husband/wife/intimate partner demonstrates one or more controlling behaviours

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a spouse or an intimate partner

Intimate partner violence

Percentage of women/men who have experienced any of the specified acts of physical, sexual, or emotional violence committed by their current or most recent husband/wife/intimate partner, ever and in the 12 months preceding the survey

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a spouse or an intimate partner



19.5.1 Prevalence of Controlling Behaviours and Intimate Partner Violence

Controlling Behaviours

Controlling behaviours are important early warning signs and correlates of violence in a relationship.

Because the concentration of behaviours is more significant than the display of any single behaviour, the percentage of women or men whose husbands/wives/partners display at least three controlling behaviours constitutes another important indicator.

Overall, 54% of women aged 15–49 years who have ever had a husband/intimate partner reported having experienced at least one specific controlling behaviour by their current or most recent husband/intimate partner.

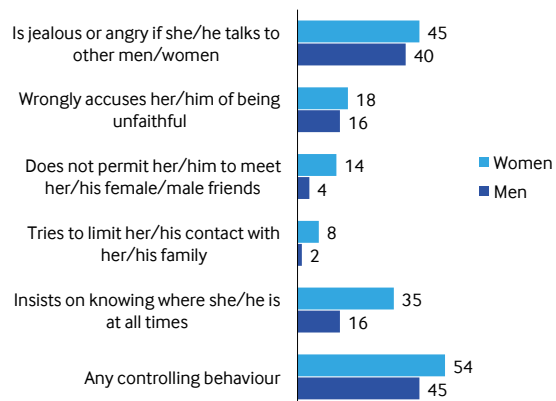
The most common controlling behaviours were jealousy or anger if the woman talked to other men (45%) and insisting on knowing where the woman is at all times (35%). Additionally, 18% of women said that their husband/intimate partner had wrongly accused them of being unfaithful, and 19% reported that their husband displays three or more controlling behaviours (Table 19.9.1, Table 19.10.1, and Figure 19.3).

Among men, 45% reported having experienced at least one specific controlling behaviour by their current or most recent wife/intimate partner. The most common controlling behaviours were jealousy or anger if they talked to other women (40%), insisting on knowing where the man is at all times (16%), and being wrongly accused of being unfaithful (16%). Additionally, 8% of men reported that their wife displays three or more controlling behaviours (Table 19.9.2, Table 19.10.2, and Figure 19.3).

Trends: The percentage of ever-married women whose husband/partner displays three or more controlling behaviours has increased slightly from 19% in 2019–20 to 22% in 2025.

Figure 19.3 Experience of controlling behaviours

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a spouse/intimate partner who have ever experienced specific controlling behaviours



Violence by Current or Most Recent Spouse/Intimate Partner

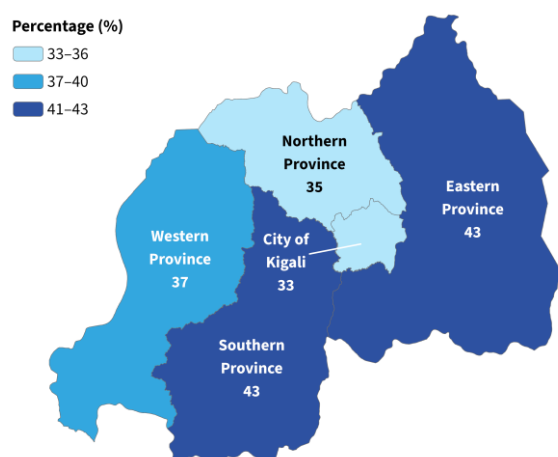
More than a third of women (39%) who have ever had a husband/intimate partner report having experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence by their current or most recent husband/intimate partner. Thirty-three percent of women have experienced emotional violence, 26% have experienced physical violence, and 11% have experienced sexual violence. Furthermore, 7% of women have experienced all three types of violence (Table 19.11.1).

Twenty-three percent of men who have ever had a wife/intimate partner report having experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence by their current or most recent wife/intimate partner. Twenty-two percent of men have experienced emotional violence, 6% have experienced physical violence, and 2% have experienced sexual violence. Less than 1% of men have experienced all three types of violence (Table 19.11.2).

The prevalence of physical, sexual, or emotional violence by a spouse/intimate partner varies by province. The prevalence among women is lowest in the City of Kigali (33%) and highest in Southern and Eastern Provinces (43% each). Among men, the prevalence ranges from 19% in the City of Kigali to 28% in Western Province (**Maps 19.1 and 19.2**).

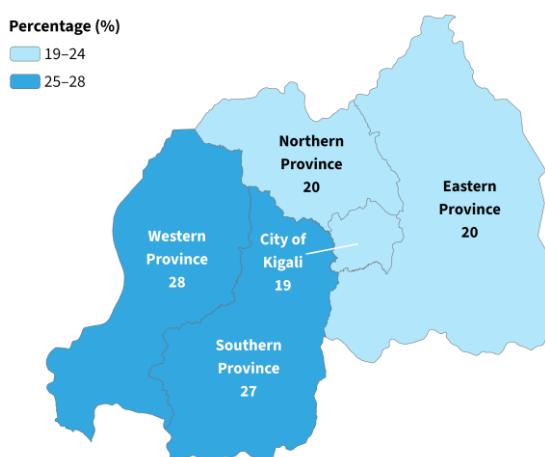
Map 19.1 Intimate partner violence against women by province

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who have ever had a husband/intimate partner and have experienced physical, sexual, or emotional violence committed by their husband/intimate partner



Map 19.2 Intimate partner violence against men by province

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a wife/intimate partner and have experienced physical, sexual, or emotional violence committed by their wife/intimate partner

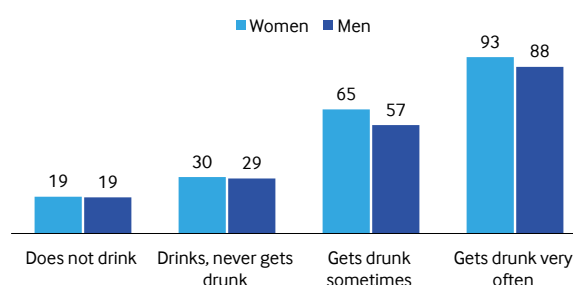


Women whose husbands/intimate partners do not drink alcohol are much less likely (19%) to have experienced physical, sexual, or emotional violence than women whose husbands/intimate partners are often drunk (93%) (**Table 19.12.1** and **Figure 19.4**). A similar pattern is observed among men (**Table 19.12.2** and **Figure 19.4**).

Trends: The percentage of ever-married women aged 15–49 years who have experienced physical, sexual, or emotional intimate partner violence increased from 40% in 2014–15 to 46% in 2019–20 and to 48% in 2025.

Figure 19.4 Intimate partner violence by spouse/intimate partner's alcohol consumption

Percentage of women and men who have ever had a spouse/intimate partner and have experienced intimate partner violence, by spouse/intimate partner's alcohol consumption



19.5.2 Intimate Partner Violence in the Past 12 Months Perpetrated by Any Spouse/Intimate Partner

Intimate partner violence by any partner in the past 12 months

Percentage of women/men who experienced any of the specified acts of physical, sexual, or emotional violence committed by any spouse or any intimate partner in the 12 months preceding the survey. These indicators correspond to SDG 5.2.1.

Sample: Women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a spouse or an intimate partner

Overall, 30% of women who have ever had a husband or intimate partner experienced physical, sexual, or emotional violence by a husband/intimate partner in the past 12 months (**Table 19.13.1**). Only 17% of men who have ever had a wife or intimate partner experienced physical, sexual, or emotional violence by a wife/intimate partner in the past 12 months (**Table 19.13.2**).

19.6 Injuries Due to Intimate Partner Violence

Injuries due to intimate partner violence

Percentage of women/men who have had the following types of injuries from intimate partner violence: cuts, bruises, or aches; eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns; or deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, or any other serious injury

Sample: Women aged 15–49 years who have experienced physical or sexual violence committed by their current or most recent husband or intimate partner; men aged 15–49 years who have experienced physical or sexual violence committed by their current or most recent wife or intimate partner

Among ever-married/partnered women who have experienced sexual or physical violence committed by their current or most recent husband/intimate partner, 41% have sustained injuries. The most common injuries were cuts, bruises, or aches (37%) followed by eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns (18%). Additionally, 10% reported deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, or other serious injuries. Among women who experienced sexual or physical violence committed by their current or most recent husband/intimate partner in the past 12 months, 43% sustained injuries (**Table 19.14**).

Among ever-married/partnered men who have experienced sexual or physical violence committed by their current or most recent wife/intimate partner, 35% have sustained injuries. As with women, the most common injuries among men were cuts, bruises, or aches (31%) followed by eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns (14%). Seven percent suffered deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, or other serious injuries. Among men who experienced such violence in the 12 months preceding the survey, 41% sustained injuries.

19.7 Physical Violence Initiated by Women/Men Against Their Spouse/Intimate Partner

Initiation of physical violence by women and men

Percentage of women/men who have ever hit, slapped, kicked, or done anything else to physically hurt their current or most recent spouse/intimate partner at times when the spouse/intimate partner was not already beating or physically hurting them.

Sample: Women and aged 15–49 years who have ever had a spouse or an intimate partner

Either spouse can instigate domestic violence. During the 2025 RDHS survey, all women and men who responded to the domestic violence module and who have ever had a spouse or intimate partner were asked if they had ever initiated physical violence against their spouse/intimate partner when the spouse/intimate partner was not already hitting or otherwise physically harming them.

Only 1% of women and 5% of men who have ever had a spouse/intimate partner reported having initiated physical violence against their current or most recent spouse/intimate partner, and 1% of women and 4% of men reported having done so in the 12 months preceding the survey. Initiation of violence against spouses or intimate partners is much more common among women and men who have experienced physical intimate partner violence (3% and 15%, respectively) than among those who have never experienced such violence (1% and 4%, respectively) (**Table 19.15**).

Table 19.16.1 and **Table 19.16.2** present data on violence perpetrated by women and men against their spouses/intimate partners by certain characteristics of respondents and their spouses.



Trends: The percentage of ever-married women who have initiated violence against their husbands/partners has remained between 1% and 2% over time.

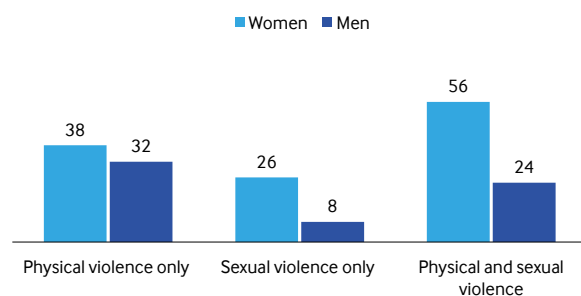
19.8 Help Seeking among Women Who Have Experienced Violence

Among women aged 15–49 years who have experienced physical or sexual violence, 32% have neither sought help to stop the violence nor told anyone about it, 26% have told someone about it but not sought help to stop it, and 41% have sought help to stop the violence (**Table 19.17.1**). Women who have experienced both physical and sexual violence are more likely (56%) to have sought help than women who have experienced physical violence only (38%) or sexual violence only (26%) (**Figure 19.5**).

Among men aged 15–49 years who have experienced physical or sexual violence, 46% have neither sought help to stop the violence nor told anyone about it, 25% have told someone about it but not sought help to stop it, and 28% have sought help to stop the violence (**Table 19.17.2**). Men who have experienced only physical violence are more likely (32%) to have sought help than men who have experienced only sexual violence (8%) or both physical and sexual violence (24%).

Figure 19.5 Help seeking by type of violence experienced

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who have experienced physical or sexual violence who sought help



Sources for Help

Among women who have experienced physical or sexual violence and sought help, the most common source of help was their own family (38%), followed by their husband/intimate partner's family (20%) and a neighbour (14%). Among men who have experienced physical or sexual violence, 18% sought help from their own family, 16% from a neighbour, and 10% from the police (**Table 19.18**).

19.9 Technology-facilitated Violence

All women and men who participated in the domestic violence module were asked whether or not they had experienced forms of technology-facilitated violence including cyberbullying, cyberstalking, nonconsensual distribution of sexually explicit images, online gender-based hate speech, using technology to coordinate physical violence, and having their accounts hacked.

Three percent of women and 5% of men aged 15–49 years have ever experienced at least one of these forms of technology-facilitated violence (**Table 19.19.1** and **Table 19.19.2**). Having an account hacked was the most common form of technology-facilitated violence experienced among women (1%) and men (3%).



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For more information on domestic violence, see the following tables:

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- Table 19.2 Persons committing physical violence
- Table 19.3 Experience of physical violence during pregnancy
- Table 19.4 Experience of sexual violence by any perpetrator
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- Table 19.9.1 Forms of controlling behaviour and intimate partner violence: Women
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- Table 19.10.1 Controlling behaviours of husbands/intimate partners by background characteristics: Women
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- Table 19.19.1 Experience of technology-facilitated violence: Women
- Table 19.19.2 Experience of technology-facilitated violence: Men



Table 19.1.1 Experience of physical violence by any perpetrator: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who have experienced physical violence by any perpetrator at some point since age 15, and percentage who have experienced physical violence by any perpetrator in the 12 months preceding the survey by frequency of violence, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who have experienced physical violence since age 15 ¹	Percentage who have experienced physical violence in the last 12 months			Number of women
		Often	Sometimes	Often or sometimes ²	
Age					
15–19	18.1	1.2	10.7	12.1	1,048
20–24	25.2	1.4	8.9	10.4	931
25–29	36.5	2.0	16.6	18.6	775
30–39	38.5	3.7	16.3	20.3	1,380
40–49	42.6	4.6	14.8	19.5	1,133
Religion					
Catholic	32.6	2.8	14.9	17.9	1,968
Protestant	33.1	2.8	13.4	16.4	2,504
Adventist	28.5	1.7	10.8	12.5	614
Muslim	34.3	5.7	7.4	13.4	80
Jehovah	41.4	1.6	6.8	9.8	55
Other	*	*	*	*	3
No religion	61.5	5.7	25.0	30.7	43
Residence					
Urban	28.8	3.1	9.7	13.0	1,661
Rural	34.5	2.5	15.4	18.1	3,606
Province					
City of Kigali	28.6	2.9	8.8	11.9	848
Southern Province	37.2	2.9	16.0	19.0	1,122
Western Province	28.6	2.0	11.9	14.2	1,110
Northern Province	28.8	3.4	11.2	14.7	779
Eastern Province	37.0	2.6	17.2	20.0	1,409
Marital status					
Never married	18.2	0.8	6.8	7.6	2,049
Never had intimate partner	13.1	0.5	6.6	7.1	777
Ever had intimate partner	21.3	0.9	7.0	8.0	1,273
Ever married	41.9	4.0	17.9	22.1	3,218
Married/living together	37.7	3.8	18.8	22.8	2,722
Divorced/separated/widowed	65.2	4.8	12.8	18.4	496
Education					
No education	41.7	5.5	14.6	20.1	327
Primary	37.2	3.1	16.7	20.0	2,923
Secondary	26.3	1.9	9.8	11.9	1,770
More than secondary	13.5	0.7	2.2	2.8	247
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	45.3	4.1	21.1	25.4	994
Second	33.6	2.8	15.8	18.8	1,034
Middle	33.9	2.8	14.6	17.5	1,012
Fourth	29.2	1.9	11.3	13.3	1,058
Highest	23.3	2.2	6.4	8.8	1,169
Total	32.7	2.7	13.6	16.5	5,267

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Includes physical violence in the last 12 months. For women who were married or living together before age 15 and reported violence only by their husband, and for never-married women who had an intimate partner before age 15 and reported violence only by their intimate partner, the violence could have occurred before age 15.

² Includes women for whom frequency in the last 12 months is not known

Table 19.1.2 Experience of physical violence by any perpetrator: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who have experienced physical violence by any perpetrator at some point since age 15, and percentage who have experienced physical violence by any perpetrator in the 12 months preceding the survey by frequency of violence, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who have experienced physical violence since age 15 ¹	Percentage who have experienced physical violence in the last 12 months			Number of men
		Often	Sometimes	Often or sometimes ²	
Age					
15–19	17.3	0.6	7.8	8.3	1,010
20–24	19.2	0.4	5.6	6.0	762
25–29	21.8	1.1	5.7	7.0	565
30–39	25.2	0.3	6.8	7.2	1,163
40–49	26.7	1.6	7.0	8.8	902
Religion					
Catholic	23.1	0.7	7.6	8.3	1,832
Protestant	21.6	0.7	5.8	6.7	1,783
Adventist	22.0	1.0	6.5	7.5	529
Muslim	17.9	1.7	0.7	3.3	108
Jehovah	(29.0)	(0.0)	(12.1)	(12.1)	27
Other	*	*	*	*	4
No religion	21.7	0.9	10.8	11.6	118
Residence					
Urban	21.4	0.3	4.9	5.3	1,383
Rural	22.6	1.0	7.5	8.6	3,019
Province					
City of Kigali	16.3	0.0	1.9	2.1	767
Southern Province	31.0	0.9	11.1	12.0	982
Western Province	26.2	1.1	10.1	11.2	828
Northern Province	20.3	0.7	4.6	5.4	633
Eastern Province	17.0	0.9	4.9	5.9	1,192
Marital status					
Never married	18.1	0.4	6.0	6.5	2,083
Never had intimate partner	10.8	0.4	4.2	4.6	1,002
Ever had intimate partner	24.9	0.5	7.6	8.3	1,081
Ever married	25.9	1.1	7.4	8.5	2,319
Married/living together	24.7	0.8	7.0	7.9	2,223
Divorced/separated/widowed	55.0	6.3	15.7	21.9	96
Education					
No education	25.6	0.6	9.6	10.1	257
Primary	22.6	1.1	6.8	8.0	2,605
Secondary	21.7	0.3	6.9	7.3	1,308
More than secondary	16.6	0.0	1.5	1.5	233
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	25.8	1.2	8.9	10.3	762
Second	27.6	0.8	9.9	10.7	783
Middle	20.4	1.3	6.3	7.7	859
Fourth	21.0	0.6	6.4	7.0	959
Highest	18.1	0.1	3.3	3.6	1,038
Total 15–49	22.2	0.8	6.7	7.6	4,402
50–59	26.9	1.6	6.8	8.8	517
Total 15–59	22.7	0.9	6.7	7.7	4,919

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Includes physical violence in the last 12 months. For men who were married or living together before age 15 and reported violence only by their wife, and for never-married men who had an intimate partner before age 15 and reported violence only by their intimate partner, the violence could have occurred before age 15.

² Includes men for whom frequency in the last 12 months is not known



Table 19.2 Persons committing physical violence

Among women and men aged 15–49 years who have experienced physical violence at some point since age 15, percentage who report specific persons who committed the violence, by respondent's partnership status, Rwanda DHS 2025

Person	Partnership status		Total
	Ever married/ ever had intimate partner	Never married/ never had intimate partner	
WOMEN			
Current husband/intimate partner	52.9	na	49.8
Former husband/intimate partner	27.8	na	26.1
Current boyfriend	0.3	0.0	0.3
Former boyfriend	2.7	5.0	2.9
Father/stepfather	7.5	27.9	8.7
Mother/stepmother	6.9	29.3	8.2
Sister/brother	4.8	22.0	5.8
Other relative	6.0	5.4	6.0
Mother-in-law	0.4	na	0.4
Other in-law	1.1	na	1.0
Teacher	3.9	24.1	5.1
Schoolmate/classmate	2.2	6.8	2.5
Employer/someone at work	0.9	1.1	1.0
Police/soldier	0.3	0.8	0.4
Other	3.6	1.7	3.5
Number of women who have experienced physical violence since age 15			
	1,620	102	1,722
MEN			
Current wife/intimate partner	19.4	na	17.3
Former wife/intimate partner	13.9	na	12.4
Current girlfriend	0.4	1.4	0.6
Former girlfriend	1.1	0.0	1.0
Father/stepfather	5.5	12.2	6.2
Mother/stepmother	2.4	5.4	2.8
Sister/brother	6.2	8.5	6.4
Other relative	5.2	6.7	5.3
Mother-in-law	0.1	na	0.1
Other in-law	1.2	na	1.1
Teacher	10.0	12.7	10.3
Schoolmate/classmate	9.4	17.9	10.3
Employer/someone at work	6.3	5.3	6.2
Police/soldier	6.5	1.7	6.0
Other	32.4	34.4	32.6
Number of men who have experienced physical violence since age 15			
	870	108	978

Notes: The term husband/wife includes a partner with whom a woman/man is living as if married. Percentages may add to more than 100% since respondents can report more than one perpetrator.

na = not applicable

Table 19.3 Experience of physical violence during pregnancy

Among women aged 15–49 years who have ever been pregnant, percentage who have ever experienced physical violence during pregnancy, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who experienced violence during pregnancy	Number of women who have ever been pregnant
Age		
15–19	13.4	88
20–24	6.3	450
25–29	8.4	657
30–39	8.7	1,302
40–49	8.4	1,103
Religion		
Catholic	7.8	1,330
Protestant	8.2	1,722
Adventist	8.3	417
Muslim	12.3	58
Jehovah	(15.0)	33
Other	*	1
No religion	(25.5)	37
Residence		
Urban	9.2	1,084
Rural	8.0	2,514
Province		
City of Kigali	10.1	524
Southern Province	9.2	782
Western Province	5.9	745
Northern Province	5.2	528
Eastern Province	10.3	1,019
Marital status		
Never married	7.1	446
Never had intimate partner	7.3	95
Ever had intimate partner	7.0	351
Ever married	8.6	3,152
Married/living together	6.4	2,661
Divorced/separated/widowed	20.2	491
Number of living children		
0	5.3	121
1–2	7.2	1,749
3–4	9.7	1,113
5+	10.1	615
Education		
No education	12.6	307
Primary	8.5	2,268
Secondary	7.5	885
More than secondary	2.2	139
Wealth quintile		
Lowest	12.1	800
Second	6.8	739
Middle	8.5	697
Fourth	8.0	705
Highest	6.0	657
Total	8.4	3,598

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 19.4 Experience of sexual violence by any perpetrator

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator, and percentage who have experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator in the 12 months preceding the survey, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Percentage who have experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator:		Number of women	Percentage who have experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator:		Number of men
	Ever ¹	In the last 12 months		Ever ¹	In the last 12 months	
Age						
15–19	12.1	5.0	1,048	2.1	0.9	1,041
20–24	16.5	5.4	931	5.5	1.8	823
25–29	21.1	8.0	775	5.3	1.8	608
30–39	22.0	9.3	1,380	6.3	1.5	1,262
40–49	21.7	9.9	1,133	5.7	0.7	964
Religion						
Catholic	17.2	7.1	1,968	4.4	1.0	1,937
Protestant	19.4	8.0	2,504	5.8	1.6	1,926
Adventist	20.7	8.4	614	4.0	1.2	559
Muslim	19.0	8.0	80	2.8	2.0	114
Jehovah	20.9	6.5	55	(12.8)	(0.0)	31
Other	*	*	3	*	*	4
No religion	34.1	9.8	43	5.9	0.7	127
Residence						
Urban	20.0	7.3	1,661	5.1	1.4	1,479
Rural	18.4	7.9	3,606	4.9	1.2	3,218
Province						
City of Kigali	20.7	7.0	848	4.1	1.0	809
Southern Province	21.4	8.1	1,122	4.9	0.8	1,042
Western Province	13.5	5.5	1,110	7.0	2.6	917
Northern Province	14.4	5.4	779	2.7	0.5	654
Eastern Province	22.5	10.8	1,409	5.3	1.3	1,276
Marital status						
Never married	15.9	5.1	2,049	4.0	1.2	2,196
Never had intimate partner	8.2	2.4	777	1.4	0.3	1,020
Ever had intimate partner	20.7	6.8	1,273	6.2	1.9	1,177
Ever married	20.7	9.4	3,218	5.9	1.4	2,501
Married/living together	18.0	9.1	2,722	5.7	1.3	2,391
Divorced/separated/widowed	35.4	11.1	496	9.6	2.9	110
Education						
No education	16.6	7.4	327	4.5	1.2	272
Primary	21.0	9.4	2,923	5.0	1.4	2,785
Secondary	16.5	5.5	1,770	5.3	1.2	1,398
More than secondary	13.9	3.7	247	3.2	0.6	242
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	21.8	10.8	994	6.5	2.1	834
Second	16.4	7.2	1,034	3.6	1.0	820
Middle	19.3	8.2	1,012	3.8	1.4	906
Fourth	20.3	6.6	1,058	5.5	1.2	1,028
Highest	16.8	6.1	1,169	5.4	1.0	1,109
Total 15–49	18.9	7.7	5,267	5.0	1.3	4,697
50–59	na	na	na	4.4	0.9	546
Total 15–59	na	na	na	4.9	1.3	5,243

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = not applicable

¹ Includes experience of sexual violence in the last 12 months

Table 19.5 Persons committing sexual violence

Among women and men aged 15–49 years who have experienced sexual violence, percentage who report specific persons who committed the violence, according to respondent's partnership status, Rwanda DHS 2025

Person	Partnership status		Total
	Ever married/ ever had intimate partner	Never married/ never had intimate partner	
WOMEN			
Current husband/intimate partner	52.0	na	48.7
Former husband/intimate partner	13.5	na	12.6
Current/former boyfriend	16.6	16.3	16.6
Father/stepfather	0.6	0.0	0.6
Brother/stepbrother	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other relative	4.1	1.7	3.9
In-law	0.5	na	0.5
Own friend/acquaintance	7.1	14.1	7.5
Family friend	7.1	15.6	7.6
Teacher	0.8	0.0	0.8
Schoolmate/classmate	1.6	2.1	1.6
Employer/someone at work	2.6	3.4	2.7
Police/soldier	0.8	0.0	0.8
Priest/religious leader	0.3	0.0	0.2
Stranger	8.4	22.1	9.3
Other	6.3	24.6	7.5
Number of women who have experienced sexual violence	930	64	994
MEN			
Former husband/intimate partner	14.8	*	13.9
Current wife/intimate partner	36.2	na	34.0
Current/former girlfriend	13.6	*	13.4
Brother/stepbrother	0.0	*	0.4
Other relative	2.7	*	3.5
In-law	1.4	na	1.3
Own friend/acquaintance	10.0	*	9.6
Family friend	14.7	*	16.5
Teacher	0.4	*	0.7
Schoolmate/classmate	2.9	*	2.9
Employer/someone at work	10.4	*	10.9
Stranger	6.9	*	6.5
Other	4.1	*	3.8
Number of men who have experienced physical violence since age 15	220	14	234

Notes: The term husband/wife includes a partner with whom a woman/man is living as if married. Percentages may add to more than 100% since respondents can report more than one perpetrator. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed. na = not applicable

Table 19.6 Experience of sexual violence by any non-intimate partner

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever experienced sexual violence by someone who is not a spouse or intimate partner, and percentage who have experienced sexual violence by someone who is not a spouse or intimate partner in the 12 months preceding the survey, according to background characteristic, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Percentage who have experienced sexual violence by someone other than a husband/intimate partner			Percentage who have experienced sexual violence by someone other than a wife/intimate partner		
	Ever ¹	In the last 12 months	Number of women	Ever ¹	In the last 12 months	Number of men
Age						
15–19	10.2	2.9	1,048	1.4	0.1	1,010
20–24	12.0	1.3	931	4.4	0.3	762
25–29	12.1	0.8	775	3.5	0.2	565
30–39	11.5	0.7	1,380	4.8	0.3	1,163
40–49	9.1	0.4	1,133	4.2	0.0	902
Religion						
Catholic	9.5	0.9	1,968	3.3	0.1	1,832
Protestant	11.5	1.6	2,504	4.1	0.3	1,783
Adventist	12.0	0.7	614	2.9	0.2	529
Muslim	10.9	0.0	80	1.6	0.0	108
Jehovah	18.1	1.5	55	(11.6)	(0.0)	27
Other	*	*	3	*	*	4
No religion	21.8	0.0	43	5.6	0.0	118
Residence						
Urban	12.2	1.2	1,661	3.5	0.2	1,383
Rural	10.3	1.2	3,606	3.7	0.2	3,019
Province						
City of Kigali	12.9	1.5	848	2.6	0.2	767
Southern Province	13.3	1.7	1,122	4.1	0.0	982
Western Province	8.2	0.7	1,110	5.3	0.5	828
Northern Province	9.2	0.7	779	2.2	0.0	633
Eastern Province	11.0	1.3	1,409	3.5	0.2	1,192
Marital status						
Never married	12.6	2.4	2,049	2.9	0.2	2,083
Never had intimate partner	8.2	2.4	777	1.4	0.3	1,002
Ever had intimate partner	15.3	2.4	1,273	4.2	0.0	1,081
Ever married	9.9	0.4	3,218	4.3	0.2	2,319
Married/living together	9.3	0.2	2,722	4.3	0.2	2,223
Divorced/separated/widowed	12.9	1.8	496	4.8	1.0	96
Education						
No education	7.4	1.2	327	3.1	0.0	257
Primary	11.1	1.5	2,923	3.5	0.2	2,605
Secondary	11.4	0.8	1,770	4.3	0.2	1,308
More than secondary	9.7	0.0	247	2.4	0.0	233
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	10.0	1.6	994	4.0	0.1	762
Second	9.4	0.8	1,034	2.5	0.0	783
Middle	10.3	0.7	1,012	2.7	0.5	859
Fourth	13.4	1.3	1,058	4.4	0.2	959
Highest	11.4	1.6	1,169	4.3	0.1	1,038
Total 15–49	10.9	1.2	5,267	3.6	0.2	4,402
50–59	na	na	na	3.1	0.0	517
Total 15–59	na	na	na	3.6	0.2	4,919

Note: The term husband/wife includes a partner with whom a woman/man is living as if married. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = not applicable

¹ Includes experience of violence in the last 12 months

Table 19.7 Age at first experience of sexual violence

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who experienced first sexual violence by specific exact ages, according to current age and type of perpetrator, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage who first experienced sexual violence by exact age:					Percentage who have not experienced sexual violence	Number of respondents
	10	12	15	18	22		
WOMEN							
Age							
15–19	1.0	2.2	4.6	na	na	87.9	1,048
20–24	0.6	1.7	3.4	8.3	na	83.5	931
25–29	0.3	0.3	1.9	7.6	15.1	78.9	775
30–39	0.2	0.5	2.6	7.6	14.3	78.0	1,380
40–49	0.3	0.5	2.4	6.7	11.3	78.3	1,133
18–29	0.7	1.3	3.0	9.1	na	82.0	2,144
Total 15–49	0.3	0.7	2.1	6.1	10.0	83.3	15,025
Type of perpetrator							
Any husband/intimate partner ¹	0.0	0.1	0.3	2.5	6.0	79.3	4,490
Any non-intimate partner ²	0.5	1.0	2.9	7.0	9.9	88.9	5,267
MEN							
Age							
15–19	0.7	0.9	1.0	na	na	97.8	1,010
20–24	0.7	0.7	1.3	2.8	na	94.0	762
25–29	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.7	3.4	94.3	565
30–39	0.2	0.2	0.4	1.7	3.4	93.2	1,163
40–49	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.9	2.6	93.9	902
18–29	0.6	0.6	1.0	2.3	na	94.7	1,731
Total 15–49	0.3	0.3	0.5	1.2	2.5	94.9	12,205
Type of perpetrator							
Any wife/intimate partner ¹	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	1.0	93.5	3,400
Any non-intimate partner ²	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.5	2.8	96.2	4,402
50–59	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	95.7	1,543
Total 15–59	0.2	0.3	0.5	1.1	2.3	95.0	13,747

Note: The term husband/wife includes a partner with whom a woman/man is living as if married.

na = Not applicable

¹ Includes only ever-married respondents and never-married respondents who have ever had an intimate partner

² Includes all respondents

Table 19.8 Experience of different forms of violence

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever experienced different forms of violence, by current age, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age	Physical violence only	Sexual violence only	Physical and sexual violence	Physical or sexual violence	Number of respondents
WOMEN					
15–19	13.4	7.4	4.7	25.4	1,048
15–17	13.0	5.3	4.2	22.6	610
18–19	13.9	10.2	5.4	29.4	438
20–24	17.4	8.7	7.8	33.9	931
25–29	23.1	7.7	13.4	44.2	775
30–39	22.3	5.8	16.2	44.3	1,380
40–49	25.7	4.9	16.9	47.5	1,133
Total 15–49	20.5	6.7	12.2	39.4	5,267
MEN					
15–19	17.1	1.9	0.6	19.7	1,114
15–17	16.8	1.7	0.2	18.8	667
18–19	17.6	2.2	1.3	21.0	447
20–24	18.4	3.4	2.0	23.9	858
25–29	17.8	1.8	3.7	23.3	645
30–39	22.2	3.0	3.4	28.6	1,315
40–49	23.1	2.3	4.1	29.5	986
Total 15–49	19.4	2.5	2.8	24.7	4,402
50–59	24.9	2.6	2.0	29.5	517
Total 15–59	20.0	2.5	2.7	25.2	4,919

Table 19.9.1 Forms of controlling behaviour and intimate partner violence: Women

Among women aged 15–49 years who have ever had a husband or intimate partner, percentage who have experienced controlling behaviours and various forms of intimate partner violence perpetrated by a husband or intimate partner, ever or in the 12 months preceding the survey, Rwanda DHS 2025

Type of violence experienced	Ever experienced	Experienced in the last 12 months	Frequency in the last 12 months	
			Often	Sometimes
CONTROLLING BEHAVIOURS AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE PERPETRATED BY THE CURRENT OR MOST RECENT HUSBAND OR INTIMATE PARTNER				
Controlling behaviour				
Any controlling behaviour	53.9	45.0	12.5	32.6
Is jealous or angry if she talks to other men	44.5	36.0	7.7	28.4
Wrongly accuses her of being unfaithful	18.4	14.5	3.6	11.0
Does not permit her to meet her female friends	14.2	10.9	3.7	7.2
Tries to limit her contact with her family	7.8	5.6	1.6	4.0
Insists on knowing where she is at all times	35.2	29.5	7.6	21.9
Physical violence				
Any physical violence	25.6	15.8	2.8	13.0
Pushed her, shook her, or threw something at her	11.6	7.4	1.7	5.8
Slapped her	23.0	13.6	1.7	11.8
Twisted her arm or pulled her hair	7.3	4.6	1.0	3.6
Punched her with his fist or with something that could hurt her	10.7	6.1	1.1	5.0
Kicked her, dragged her, or beat her up	9.9	5.7	1.1	4.6
Tried to choke her or burn her on purpose	5.3	3.1	0.7	2.4
Attacked her with a knife, gun, or other weapon	1.5	0.6	0.1	0.5
Sexual violence				
Any sexual violence	10.8	7.5	1.1	6.4
Physically forced her to have sexual intercourse with him when she did not want to	8.5	5.7	1.0	4.8
Physically forced her to perform any other sexual acts she did not want to	6.0	4.2	0.8	3.4
Forced her with threats or in any other way to perform sexual acts she did not want to	4.2	2.7	0.6	2.1
Emotional violence				
Any emotional violence	33.2	25.3	5.8	19.5
Said or did something to humiliate her in front of others	15.1	10.1	2.9	7.2
Threatened to hurt or harm her or someone she cared about	13.8	9.6	2.7	6.9
Insulted her or made her feel bad about herself	31.3	23.7	4.8	19.0
At least three forms of controlling behaviour	19.3	15.9	8.0	7.9
Any form of physical and/or sexual violence	28.4	18.5	3.3	15.2
Any form of emotional and/or physical and/or sexual violence	39.1	29.0	6.6	22.5
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE PERPETRATED BY ANY CURRENT OR PREVIOUS HUSBAND OR INTIMATE PARTNER				
Physical violence	27.3	16.0	na	na
Sexual violence	12.4	7.9	na	na
Emotional violence	34.4	25.5	na	na
Any form of physical or sexual violence	30.6	19.0	na	na
Any form of emotional or physical or sexual violence	40.9	29.5	na	na
Number of women ever married or never married who ever had an intimate partner	4,490	4,490	4,490	4,490

Notes: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married. Husband/intimate partner refers to the current husband for currently married women; the most recent husband for divorced, separated, or widowed women; the current intimate partner for never-married women who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married women who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past.

na = not available



Table 19.9.2 Forms of controlling behaviour and intimate partner violence: Men

Among men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a wife or intimate partner, percentage who have experienced controlling behaviours and various forms of intimate partner violence perpetrated by a wife or intimate partner, ever or in the 12 months preceding the survey, Rwanda DHS 2025

Type of violence experienced	Ever experienced	Experienced in the last 12 months	Frequency in the last 12 months	
			Often	Sometimes
CONTROLLING BEHAVIOURS AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE PERPETRATED BY THE CURRENT OR MOST RECENT WIFE OR INTIMATE PARTNER				
Controlling behaviour				
Any controlling behaviour	44.5	38.1	8.7	29.4
Is jealous or angry if he talks to other women	39.5	32.3	6.1	26.2
Wrongly accuses him of being unfaithful	15.5	13.5	3.1	10.4
Does not permit him to meet his male friends	4.3	3.5	0.7	2.8
Tries to limit his contact with his family	1.6	1.1	0.3	0.8
Insists on knowing where he is at all times	15.5	14.1	2.9	11.3
Physical violence				
Any physical violence	6.9	4.8	0.9	4.0
Pushed him, shook him, or threw something at him	4.1	3.0	0.5	2.5
Slapped him	3.5	2.2	0.4	1.9
Twisted his arm or pulled his hair	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.4
Punched him with her fist or with something that could hurt him	2.8	1.6	0.3	1.2
Kicked him, dragged him, or beat him up	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.3
Tried to choke him or burn him on purpose	0.9	0.6	0.2	0.5
Attacked him with a knife, gun, or other weapon	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.4
Sexual violence				
Any sexual violence	2.0	0.2	0.2	0.0
Physically forced him to have sexual intercourse with her when he did not want to	1.4	1.1	0.1	1.0
Physically forced him to perform any other sexual acts he did not want to	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.6
Forced him with threats or in any other way to perform sexual acts he did not want to	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.3
Emotional violence				
Any emotional violence	22.7	16.2	2.9	13.3
Said or did something to humiliate him in front of others	9.6	7.4	1.7	5.7
Threatened to hurt or harm him or someone he cared about	3.2	2.5	0.7	1.8
Insulted him or made him feel bad about himself	20.2	14.0	2.3	11.7
At least three forms of controlling behaviour	7.9	7.2	3.1	4.1
Any form of physical and/or sexual violence	8.3	4.9	1.0	3.9
Any form of emotional and/or physical and/or sexual violence	24.3	17.1	3.2	14.0
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE PERPETRATED BY ANY CURRENT OR PREVIOUS WIFE OR INTIMATE PARTNER				
Physical violence	9.0	5.0	na	na
Sexual violence	2.6	0.3	na	na
Emotional violence	24.6	16.3	na	na
Any form of physical or sexual violence	10.5	5.2	na	na
Any form of emotional or physical or sexual violence	26.5	17.3	na	na
Number of men ever married or never married who ever had an intimate partner	3,909	3,909	3,909	3,909

Notes: The term wife includes a partner with whom a man is living as if married. Wife/intimate partner refers to the current wife for currently married men; the most recent wife for divorced, separated, or widowed men; the current intimate partner for never-married men who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married men who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past.

na = not available

Table 19.10.1 Controlling behaviours of husbands/intimate partners by background characteristics: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who have ever had a husband or intimate partner whose husband/intimate partner has ever demonstrated specific controlling behaviours, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of women whose husband/intimate partner:							Number of women who ever had a husband/intimate partner
	Is jealous or angry if she talks to other men	Wrongly accuses her of being unfaithful	Does not permit her to meet her female friends	Tries to limit her contact with her family	Insists on knowing where she is at all times	Displays 3 or more of the specific behaviours	Displays none of the specific behaviours	
Age								
15–19	52.7	19.1	6.2	1.0	35.2	13.5	37.6	530
20–24	53.1	14.7	9.9	3.2	38.1	15.3	37.2	791
25–29	46.8	18.0	17.9	10.5	39.5	23.1	43.8	722
30–39	42.0	20.0	16.8	10.1	35.1	21.6	48.7	1,342
40–49	35.9	19.1	15.4	9.9	30.4	19.6	54.9	1,105
Religion								
Catholic	44.0	18.9	13.0	7.6	36.2	18.9	46.0	1,668
Protestant	44.1	18.3	14.5	7.6	35.6	19.6	46.0	2,134
Adventist	45.1	17.3	14.0	8.3	31.3	17.3	47.2	536
Muslim	48.4	20.6	15.4	11.6	25.2	19.2	46.9	66
Jehovah	(54.5)	(9.0)	(28.5)	(5.2)	(41.3)	(28.5)	(41.6)	46
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
No religion	(58.5)	(28.7)	(27.9)	(20.8)	(35.3)	(37.1)	(39.0)	38
Residence								
Urban	43.9	17.1	14.7	8.0	35.0	18.7	47.3	1,363
Rural	44.7	19.0	13.9	7.8	35.3	19.6	45.5	3,128
Province								
City of Kigali	39.0	16.4	14.6	8.7	32.1	18.0	52.5	636
Southern Province	49.0	19.8	14.3	7.1	38.2	19.4	41.3	985
Western Province	43.1	16.4	11.0	7.6	33.1	17.0	48.0	937
Northern Province	38.9	16.6	11.4	5.9	32.6	17.5	53.4	670
Eastern Province	47.6	20.8	17.6	9.2	37.3	22.5	41.3	1,262
Marital status								
Never married	53.8	17.8	5.1	1.0	37.3	13.8	36.8	1,273
Currently has intimate partner	56.7	17.5	5.6	0.8	39.3	14.0	34.1	973
Had intimate partner	44.3	18.9	3.4	1.6	30.9	13.0	45.6	300
Ever married	40.8	18.7	17.8	10.5	34.3	21.5	49.8	3,218
Married/living together	38.7	15.9	14.1	7.8	31.6	17.9	52.9	2,722
Divorced/separated/widowed	52.4	33.6	37.5	25.4	49.6	41.0	32.4	496
Education								
No education	39.6	27.3	17.3	12.5	28.2	23.1	53.1	304
Primary	44.2	20.4	16.1	8.9	36.7	21.9	46.1	2,571
Secondary	47.8	14.7	11.3	5.6	35.6	15.5	42.4	1,397
More than secondary	33.5	6.2	4.8	2.4	24.8	7.1	59.9	219
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	49.8	26.1	19.9	11.6	37.2	25.8	42.2	872
Second	44.3	19.5	14.5	8.0	34.6	20.8	46.2	898
Middle	43.7	17.9	13.7	7.8	38.0	17.7	44.6	870
Fourth	44.1	16.7	12.5	6.2	33.9	19.2	47.0	907
Highest	40.9	12.3	10.5	5.9	32.4	13.5	50.1	942
Woman afraid of husband/intimate partner								
Most of the time afraid	79.4	55.4	57.9	39.4	72.7	66.0	11.7	361
Sometimes afraid	63.8	33.9	28.4	15.2	57.4	37.5	21.4	900
Never afraid	35.2	10.0	5.3	2.3	24.8	9.0	56.8	3,230
Total	44.5	18.4	14.2	7.8	35.2	19.3	46.1	4,490

Notes: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married. Husband/intimate partner refers to the current husband for currently married women; the most recent husband for divorced, separated, or widowed women; the current intimate partner for never-married women who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married women who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 19.10.2 Controlling behaviours of wives/intimate partners by background characteristics: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a wife or intimate partner whose wife/intimate partner has ever demonstrated specific controlling behaviours, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of men whose wife/intimate partner:							Number of men who ever had a wife/intimate partner
	Is jealous or angry if he talks to other women	Wrongly accuses him of being unfaithful	Does not permit him to meet his male friends	Tries to limit his contact with his family	Insists on knowing where he is at all times	Displays 3 or more of the specific behaviours	Displays none of the specific behaviours	
Age								
15–19	28.9	11.6	1.3	0.0	13.2	4.5	64.4	363
20–24	45.8	17.6	3.0	0.4	16.8	7.8	49.0	538
25–29	44.9	16.5	4.7	1.2	17.4	6.9	51.0	498
30–39	39.8	14.4	5.4	1.4	16.4	8.0	54.3	1,113
40–49	39.3	17.2	5.5	3.6	15.9	10.4	56.7	887
Religion								
Catholic	39.5	14.5	4.6	1.3	15.6	7.9	55.4	1,434
Protestant	38.8	15.5	4.0	1.8	16.2	7.2	55.9	1,368
Adventist	44.3	16.2	4.7	1.0	17.3	10.1	51.4	402
Muslim	48.7	28.2	5.2	2.2	13.9	8.5	47.9	82
Jehovah	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	22
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
No religion	50.7	23.1	4.9	4.3	21.7	13.0	44.3	92
Residence								
Urban	39.2	14.4	5.7	1.2	16.0	8.2	55.3	1,089
Rural	40.7	16.3	3.9	1.8	16.2	8.0	54.4	2,311
Province								
City of Kigali	35.2	13.4	4.3	1.0	7.8	5.2	61.0	587
Southern Province	39.0	17.1	4.1	1.3	21.6	9.6	52.9	800
Western Province	45.7	15.7	4.6	2.2	21.8	10.3	47.8	628
Northern Province	37.6	10.8	4.8	0.9	11.6	5.2	59.7	491
Eastern Province	42.2	18.6	4.7	2.4	15.3	8.6	54.1	894
Marital status								
Never married	39.7	15.0	2.4	0.1	16.4	6.7	55.4	1,081
Currently has intimate partner	48.0	18.7	2.7	0.1	20.7	8.4	45.3	753
Had intimate partner	20.4	6.7	1.8	0.0	6.4	2.6	78.8	328
Ever married	40.5	16.0	5.4	2.3	16.1	8.7	54.3	2,319
Married/living together	39.8	14.9	5.0	1.9	15.5	8.0	54.9	2,223
Divorced/separated/widowed	55.7	40.9	15.6	13.0	27.8	25.1	41.1	96
Education								
No education	38.1	16.6	3.3	2.1	13.7	6.5	57.6	226
Primary	39.6	16.3	4.5	2.0	14.9	7.6	55.0	2,051
Secondary	42.4	15.0	4.6	0.8	18.9	9.4	52.7	908
More than secondary	39.1	11.6	5.4	0.9	18.6	7.6	56.4	216
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	38.8	16.5	5.0	2.8	15.1	8.6	56.7	617
Second	42.6	18.5	2.7	2.7	15.1	8.9	52.4	593
Middle	37.9	14.4	4.7	1.4	17.3	6.7	56.3	643
Fourth	40.9	14.8	4.7	0.6	17.4	8.8	53.7	763
Highest	40.7	14.8	5.1	0.9	15.6	7.4	54.5	785
Man afraid of wife/intimate partner								
Most of the time afraid	73.5	50.8	24.0	22.9	44.6	35.2	14.6	80
Sometimes afraid	70.2	38.0	11.4	5.0	34.4	24.2	23.8	247
Never afraid	39.0	13.7	3.6	0.8	14.7	6.4	55.8	2,908
Total 15–49	40.2	15.7	4.5	1.6	16.2	8.1	54.7	3,400
50–59	34.8	14.4	3.0	1.3	11.1	6.7	61.1	509
Total 15–59	39.5	15.5	4.3	1.6	15.5	7.9	55.5	3,909

Notes: The term wife includes a partner with whom a man is living as if married. Wife/intimate partner refers to the current wife for currently married men; the most recent wife for divorced, separated, or widowed men; the current intimate partner for never-married men who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married men who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 19.11.1 Intimate partner violence by background characteristics: Women

Among women aged 15–49 years who have ever had a husband or intimate partner, percentage who have ever experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence committed by their current or most recent husband/intimate partner, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical and sexual violence	Physical and sexual and emotional violence	Physical or sexual violence	Physical or sexual or emotional violence	Number of women who ever had a husband/intimate partner
Age								
15–19	10.0	4.7	5.5	1.3	1.0	8.9	14.7	530
20–24	23.1	13.1	5.3	2.4	2.0	16.0	27.5	791
25–29	33.5	27.7	11.3	8.2	7.4	30.8	40.8	722
30–39	41.3	31.2	12.6	9.9	9.6	33.9	47.1	1,342
40–49	41.5	36.3	14.6	12.4	11.7	38.6	48.1	1,105
Religion								
Catholic	31.8	25.2	10.1	7.4	6.7	28.0	37.9	1,668
Protestant	33.8	25.9	11.0	7.9	7.6	29.0	40.0	2,134
Adventist	33.4	24.1	11.6	8.8	8.6	26.9	37.6	536
Muslim	24.7	17.5	10.4	9.1	9.1	18.8	29.4	66
Jehovah	(32.9)	(21.2)	(7.8)	(3.6)	(3.6)	(25.4)	(41.1)	46
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
No religion	(76.4)	(60.1)	(21.9)	(19.2)	(19.2)	(62.8)	(76.4)	38
Residence								
Urban	29.1	20.3	10.7	7.6	7.1	23.5	33.1	1,363
Rural	35.0	27.8	10.8	8.0	7.6	30.6	41.7	3,128
Province								
City of Kigali	29.7	21.1	11.0	8.4	8.2	23.7	32.9	636
Southern Province	34.9	28.6	11.0	7.2	6.9	32.4	42.6	985
Western Province	31.3	23.5	8.1	6.1	5.5	25.5	37.3	937
Northern Province	30.2	22.9	7.6	6.5	5.8	24.0	34.7	670
Eastern Province	36.6	28.4	14.2	10.3	9.8	32.3	43.0	1,262
Marital status								
Never married	12.2	3.8	6.2	1.6	1.1	8.4	16.6	1,273
Currently has intimate partner	9.7	3.3	4.9	1.4	0.8	6.8	14.0	973
Had intimate partner	20.5	5.2	10.7	2.3	2.3	13.6	25.0	300
Ever married	41.5	34.2	12.6	10.4	9.9	36.3	48.0	3,218
Married/living together	36.8	29.7	9.7	7.7	7.2	31.8	43.8	2,722
Divorced/separated/widowed	66.9	58.8	28.2	25.4	24.9	61.6	71.0	496
Education								
No education	40.9	37.0	11.1	10.0	9.6	38.0	48.3	304
Primary	39.5	31.6	12.7	9.6	9.1	34.7	46.3	2,571
Secondary	23.2	15.0	7.9	5.2	4.7	17.7	27.7	1,397
More than secondary	12.0	6.8	5.5	2.5	2.5	9.8	13.7	219
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	45.8	39.9	14.8	12.3	12.0	42.3	52.5	872
Second	36.9	29.0	9.7	7.4	6.9	31.3	43.4	898
Middle	35.1	27.7	12.6	9.5	8.6	30.8	43.0	870
Fourth	27.6	19.5	8.5	5.6	5.2	22.4	32.1	907
Highest	21.5	12.9	8.6	5.1	4.7	16.4	25.5	942
Total	33.2	25.6	10.8	7.9	7.4	28.4	39.1	4,490

Notes: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married. Husband/intimate partner refers to the current husband for currently married women; the most recent husband for divorced, separated, or widowed women; the current intimate partner for never-married women who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married women who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 19.11.2 Intimate partner violence by background characteristics: Men

Among men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a wife or intimate partner, percentage who have ever experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence committed by their current or most recent wife/intimate partner, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical and sexual violence	Physical and sexual and emotional violence	Physical or sexual violence	Physical or sexual or emotional violence	Number of men who ever had a wife/intimate partner
Age								
15–19	6.8	1.3	2.1	0.2	0.2	3.2	9.2	363
20–24	12.8	3.0	3.6	0.3	0.3	6.3	16.1	538
25–29	19.1	4.5	2.9	0.8	0.8	6.6	20.2	498
30–39	25.9	7.2	1.7	0.5	0.5	8.4	27.5	1,113
40–49	28.8	10.1	1.2	0.8	0.8	10.5	29.5	887
Religion								
Catholic	22.1	6.5	1.8	0.4	0.4	7.8	23.7	1,434
Protestant	21.1	5.8	2.6	0.7	0.7	7.7	23.0	1,368
Adventist	18.2	5.1	1.7	0.2	0.2	6.6	19.9	402
Muslim	24.5	5.7	2.8	0.0	0.0	8.5	24.5	82
Jehovah	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	22
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
No religion	26.2	10.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	10.5	26.2	92
Residence								
Urban	20.1	5.3	2.7	0.4	0.4	7.5	21.9	1,089
Rural	22.2	6.7	1.8	0.6	0.6	7.9	23.8	2,311
Province								
City of Kigali	17.7	4.0	2.6	0.2	0.2	6.4	19.1	587
Southern Province	26.1	8.3	1.4	0.4	0.4	9.3	27.1	800
Western Province	25.2	6.4	3.6	0.9	0.9	9.0	28.2	628
Northern Province	18.7	4.6	0.7	0.2	0.2	5.1	20.3	491
Eastern Province	19.1	6.7	2.1	0.9	0.9	7.9	20.4	894
Marital status								
Never married	9.7	1.6	3.0	0.4	0.4	4.3	12.2	1,081
Currently has intimate partner	11.2	2.0	3.8	0.6	0.6	5.2	14.2	753
Had intimate partner	6.3	0.9	1.2	0.0	0.0	2.0	7.6	328
Ever married	27.1	8.4	1.7	0.6	0.6	9.4	28.3	2,319
Married/living together	25.7	6.9	1.5	0.5	0.5	7.9	26.8	2,223
Divorced/separated/widowed	59.8	42.2	6.2	2.7	2.7	45.8	63.2	96
Education								
No education	26.5	10.8	1.4	0.8	0.8	11.4	26.8	226
Primary	22.9	6.5	2.1	0.7	0.7	7.9	24.3	2,051
Secondary	18.4	5.5	2.4	0.1	0.1	7.8	21.0	908
More than secondary	17.0	2.6	1.5	1.1	1.1	2.9	18.0	216
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	26.9	7.8	3.0	0.8	0.8	10.0	28.6	617
Second	23.3	9.0	1.6	0.5	0.5	10.1	24.7	593
Middle	19.9	6.1	1.4	0.9	0.9	6.6	21.0	643
Fourth	21.4	5.9	1.9	0.3	0.3	7.5	23.1	763
Highest	17.6	3.4	2.6	0.4	0.4	5.6	19.6	785
Total 15–49	21.6	6.2	2.1	0.6	0.6	7.8	23.2	3,400
50–59	30.3	11.3	1.3	0.6	0.6	12.1	31.4	509
Total 15–59	22.7	6.9	2.0	0.6	0.6	8.3	24.3	3,909

Notes: The term wife includes a partner with whom a man is living as if married. Wife/intimate partner refers to the current wife for currently married men; the most recent wife for divorced, separated, or widowed men; the current intimate partner for never-married men who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married men who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 19.12.1 Intimate partner violence by husband/intimate partner's characteristics and women's empowerment indicators

Among women aged 15–49 years who have ever had a husband or intimate partner, percentage who have ever experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence committed by their current or most recent husband/intimate partner, according to husband/intimate partner's characteristics and women's empowerment indicators, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical and sexual violence	Physical and sexual and emotional violence	Physical or sexual violence	Physical or sexual or emotional violence	Number of women who ever had a husband/intimate partner
Husband/intimate partner's alcohol consumption								
Does not drink alcohol	15.3	8.8	3.9	1.6	1.4	11.1	19.4	2,590
Drinks alcohol but is never drunk	23.7	14.9	7.0	3.5	3.1	18.4	29.7	402
Is sometimes drunk	54.3	44.0	15.7	11.3	10.1	48.4	65.4	945
Is often drunk	87.8	80.4	37.4	34.7	34.2	83.0	92.9	553
Husband's education¹								
No education	42.2	38.2	11.9	10.9	10.9	39.2	50.0	254
Primary	39.4	32.6	10.8	8.3	7.7	35.1	47.3	1,759
Secondary	31.7	21.7	7.2	5.7	5.3	23.3	36.6	544
More than secondary	15.2	10.4	2.4	2.2	2.2	10.5	17.0	147
Don't know/missing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	17
Spousal education difference¹								
Husband better educated	38.1	31.9	8.4	7.2	7.0	33.1	44.6	1,052
Wife better educated	39.8	32.8	12.3	10.1	9.3	35.0	47.6	1,090
Both equally educated	28.5	18.4	6.9	3.3	3.0	22.0	33.7	492
Neither educated	30.5	29.4	9.1	8.0	8.0	30.5	40.7	72
Don't know/missing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	17
Spousal age difference¹								
Wife older	35.9	27.5	7.5	5.9	5.7	29.2	41.7	450
Wife is same age	37.3	32.7	8.8	7.2	5.1	34.3	45.3	245
Wife 1–4 years younger	38.2	30.9	9.6	7.6	7.3	32.9	45.6	1,024
Wife 5–9 years younger	35.2	28.1	10.1	8.3	8.0	29.9	41.9	636
Wife 10 or more years younger	36.6	29.6	12.6	9.1	8.8	33.1	43.3	367
Number of decisions in which woman participates²								
0	39.0	40.5	14.9	14.5	14.0	40.9	49.4	165
1–2	46.5	37.8	11.4	9.2	8.4	40.0	54.8	864
3	31.7	24.5	8.3	6.2	5.9	26.6	37.6	1,693
Number of controlling behaviours displayed by husband/intimate partner³								
0	14.8	11.5	2.7	1.3	1.2	12.9	19.9	2,069
1–2	34.8	24.4	10.1	6.2	5.6	28.4	42.4	1,555
3–4	69.3	55.6	25.7	21.3	20.1	59.9	74.3	710
5	97.4	87.3	55.6	51.6	51.6	91.4	98.9	156
Number of reasons for which wife beating is justified⁴								
0	30.4	22.9	9.7	7.4	7.0	25.2	35.4	3,193
1–2	37.8	28.6	12.2	7.8	7.2	33.0	46.2	715
3–4	41.0	35.5	15.0	10.3	9.8	40.3	50.0	360
5	45.0	37.6	14.2	11.1	10.1	40.6	51.2	222
Woman's father beat mother								
Yes	42.4	33.0	13.2	10.4	9.5	35.8	49.2	1,508
No	27.2	20.8	9.1	6.3	6.0	23.6	32.4	2,662
Don't know	39.7	30.0	12.8	9.2	9.2	33.5	46.9	320
Woman afraid of husband/intimate partner								
Most of the time afraid	89.9	83.9	48.4	45.6	45.3	86.8	92.5	361
Sometimes afraid	64.9	53.8	20.0	14.8	13.5	59.0	73.8	900
Never afraid	18.0	11.2	4.0	1.8	1.5	13.4	23.4	3,230
Total	33.2	25.6	10.8	7.9	7.4	28.4	39.1	4,490

Notes: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married. Husband/intimate partner refers to the current husband for currently married women; the most recent husband for divorced, separated, or widowed women; the current intimate partner for never-married women who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married women who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Includes only currently married women

² According to the wife's report. Includes only currently married women. See Table 15.8.1 for list of decisions.

³ According to the woman's report. See Table 19.9.1 for list of behaviours.

⁴ According to the woman's report. See Table 15.9.1 for list of reasons.

Table 19.12.2 Intimate partner violence by wife/intimate partner's characteristics and men's decision-making: Men

Among men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a wife or intimate partner, percentage who have ever experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence committed by their current or most recent wife/intimate partner, according to wife/intimate partner's characteristics and men's decision-making, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical and sexual violence	Physical and sexual and emotional violence	Physical or sexual violence	Physical or sexual or emotional violence	Number of men who ever had a wife/intimate partner
Wife/intimate partner's alcohol consumption								
Does not drink alcohol	17.3	3.6	1.8	0.2	0.2	5.2	19.0	2,731
Drinks alcohol but is never drunk	28.0	6.8	1.9	0.7	0.7	8.0	29.0	460
Is sometimes drunk	54.6	32.1	4.8	2.5	2.5	34.4	57.1	158
Is often drunk	87.8	59.7	9.4	9.4	9.4	59.7	87.8	52
Number of decisions in which man participates¹								
0	14.0	4.9	3.3	0.6	0.6	7.7	16.5	1,211
1–2	25.7	7.0	1.4	0.6	0.6	7.9	26.9	2,189
Number of controlling behaviours displayed by wife/intimate partner²								
0	9.3	2.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	2.9	10.4	1,859
1–2	31.3	7.3	2.6	0.7	0.7	9.3	33.3	1,267
3–4	57.1	25.0	9.6	2.8	2.8	31.8	61.1	258
5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	16
Number of reasons for which wife beating is justified³								
0	19.8	5.4	1.7	0.5	0.5	6.6	21.3	2,920
1–2	30.7	12.0	4.5	0.8	0.8	15.8	33.0	361
3–4	42.8	10.4	6.3	1.1	1.1	15.6	48.4	79
5	(21.9)	(6.9)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(6.9)	(21.9)	40
Father beat mother								
Yes	32.2	9.7	3.0	1.0	1.0	11.7	33.9	868
No	17.3	4.8	1.9	0.4	0.4	6.2	18.9	2,413
Don't know	30.2	11.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	11.3	31.2	119
Man afraid of wife/intimate partner								
Most of the time afraid	69.0	41.1	15.8	10.4	10.4	46.5	71.0	80
Sometimes afraid	52.5	24.2	6.8	1.9	1.9	29.0	56.7	247
Never afraid	18.8	4.1	1.4	0.2	0.2	5.4	20.3	2,908
Total 15–49	21.6	6.2	2.1	0.6	0.6	7.8	23.2	3,400
50–59	30.3	11.3	1.3	0.6	0.6	12.1	31.4	509
Total 15–59	22.7	6.9	2.0	0.6	0.6	8.3	24.3	3,909

Notes: The term wife includes a partner with whom a man is living as if married. Wife/intimate partner refers to the current wife for currently married men; the most recent wife for divorced, separated, or widowed men; the current intimate partner for never-married men who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married men who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ According to the husband's report. Includes only currently married men. See Table 15.8.2 for list of decisions.

² According to the man's report. See Table 19.9.2 for list of behaviours.

³ According to the man's report. See Table 15.9.2 for list of reasons.

Table 19.13.1 Violence by any husband or intimate partner in the last 12 months

Among women aged 15–49 years who have ever had a husband or intimate partner, percentage who have experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence by any husband/intimate partner in the last 12 months, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical and sexual violence	Physical and sexual and emotional violence	Physical or sexual violence	Physical or sexual or emotional violence	Number of women who ever had a husband/intimate partner
Age								
15–19	9.2	4.7	5.9	1.3	1.0	9.3	13.9	530
20–24	20.1	9.9	4.9	2.3	1.9	12.5	24.0	791
25–29	25.1	18.7	8.1	4.9	4.4	21.9	30.4	722
30–39	32.5	20.0	8.9	6.3	6.0	22.7	36.1	1,342
40–49	29.2	19.1	9.7	7.0	6.6	21.8	32.4	1,105
Residence								
Urban	21.6	12.9	7.7	4.4	4.0	16.2	24.7	1,363
Rural	27.3	17.3	8.0	5.2	4.8	20.2	31.6	3,128
Province								
City of Kigali	23.0	13.8	7.3	4.6	4.5	16.5	25.6	636
Southern Province	27.3	17.9	7.9	4.6	4.4	21.2	32.3	985
Western Province	23.7	13.1	5.9	3.6	3.1	15.4	27.3	937
Northern Province	22.4	14.3	5.6	4.4	3.7	15.4	24.7	670
Eastern Province	28.4	18.7	11.0	6.7	6.3	23.0	33.6	1,262
Marital status								
Never married	9.0	2.9	5.3	1.1	0.7	7.1	12.9	1,273
Currently has intimate partner	9.2	3.2	5.1	1.3	0.8	7.1	13.5	973
Had intimate partner	8.3	1.6	6.0	0.6	0.6	7.0	11.0	300
Ever married	32.1	21.2	9.0	6.5	6.1	23.7	36.1	3,218
Married/living together	34.1	22.0	8.9	6.2	5.8	24.7	38.4	2,722
Divorced/separated/widowed	21.4	16.9	9.3	7.9	7.6	18.3	23.1	496
Education								
No education	26.9	19.9	6.7	5.1	4.7	21.5	31.1	304
Primary	30.6	19.9	9.4	6.1	5.7	23.2	35.1	2,571
Secondary	18.5	9.9	6.1	3.4	3.0	12.6	22.0	1,397
More than secondary	9.3	2.9	4.1	1.2	1.2	5.8	10.3	219
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	34.6	24.8	10.9	8.1	7.9	27.7	39.1	872
Second	27.6	18.8	7.3	4.9	4.5	21.3	32.3	898
Middle	27.8	16.9	9.1	5.6	4.8	20.4	32.4	870
Fourth	22.5	12.8	6.4	3.7	3.6	15.4	25.2	907
Highest	16.1	7.4	6.2	2.7	2.3	10.8	19.5	942
Total	25.5	16.0	7.9	4.9	4.6	19.0	29.5	4,490

Note: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married. Any husband/intimate partner includes all current, most recent, and former husbands for ever-married women and all current, most recent, and former intimate partners for never-married women.

Table 19.13.2 Violence by any wife or intimate partner in the last 12 months

Among men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a wife or intimate partner, percentage who have experienced emotional, physical, or sexual violence by any wife/intimate partner in the last 12 months, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Emotional violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical and sexual violence	Physical and sexual and emotional violence	Physical or sexual violence	Physical or sexual or emotional violence	Number of men who ever had a wife/intimate partner
Age								
15–19	4.5	1.3	3.0	0.3	0.3	4.0	8.2	363
20–24	7.4	2.7	1.2	0.2	0.2	3.7	8.9	538
25–29	15.0	4.1	0.8	0.5	0.5	4.4	15.7	498
30–39	19.2	4.7	0.9	0.1	0.0	5.6	20.9	1,113
40–49	20.7	7.6	0.6	0.2	0.2	7.9	22.1	887
Residence								
Urban	14.7	3.6	0.7	0.0	0.0	4.2	15.7	1,089
Rural	16.0	5.2	1.3	0.3	0.2	6.2	17.9	2,311
Province								
City of Kigali	12.0	2.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	2.1	12.4	587
Southern Province	16.7	6.2	1.7	0.1	0.0	7.8	19.4	800
Western Province	19.4	5.7	0.8	0.2	0.2	6.2	20.5	628
Northern Province	13.4	3.3	0.8	0.2	0.2	4.0	15.4	491
Eastern Province	15.3	5.2	1.5	0.4	0.4	6.3	17.0	894
Marital status								
Never married	5.7	1.7	2.0	0.3	0.2	3.5	8.4	1,081
Currently has intimate partner	7.7	2.2	2.8	0.4	0.3	4.7	11.2	753
Had intimate partner	1.2	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.7	1.8	328
Ever married	20.1	6.1	0.6	0.2	0.2	6.6	21.3	2,319
Married/living together	19.4	5.5	0.5	0.1	0.1	5.8	20.4	2,223
Divorced/separated/widowed	38.5	20.1	4.1	0.8	0.8	23.4	42.6	96
Education								
No education	20.4	8.0	1.5	0.7	0.7	8.8	22.2	226
Primary	16.7	5.1	1.2	0.2	0.2	6.0	18.3	2,051
Secondary	13.1	3.9	0.7	0.1	0.1	4.6	14.8	908
More than secondary	10.0	0.8	1.4	0.0	0.0	2.3	11.4	216
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	19.9	6.1	1.5	0.3	0.3	7.2	21.1	617
Second	17.6	7.4	1.2	0.3	0.3	8.3	19.6	593
Middle	14.9	4.2	1.6	0.5	0.4	5.3	16.8	643
Fourth	14.7	4.2	0.9	0.0	0.0	5.1	16.8	763
Highest	11.9	2.4	0.5	0.0	0.0	2.9	12.9	785
Total 15–49	15.6	4.7	1.1	0.2	0.2	5.6	17.2	3,400
50–59	21.4	6.7	1.8	0.0	0.0	8.6	23.1	509
Total 15–59	16.3	5.0	1.2	0.2	0.2	6.0	18.0	3,909

Note: The term wife includes a partner with whom a man is living as if married. Any wife/intimate partner includes all current, most recent, and former wives for ever-married men and all current, most recent, and former intimate partners for never-married men.

Table 19.14 Injuries to women and men due to intimate partner violence

Among women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a spouse or intimate partner and who have experienced violence committed by their current or most recent spouse/intimate partner, percentage who have been injured as a result of the violence, by types of injuries, according to type of violence, Rwanda DHS 2025

Type of violence experienced	Cuts, bruises, or aches	Eye injuries, sprains, dislocations, or burns	Deep wounds, broken bones, broken teeth, or any other serious injury	Any of these injuries	Number of respondents who have experienced specified type of violence
WOMEN					
Physical violence¹					
Ever ²	39.9	20.2	10.7	44.0	1,148
Last 12 months	43.3	21.6	11.6	47.3	708
Sexual violence					
Ever ²	45.6	24.2	16.8	51.8	484
Last 12 months	41.8	21.3	15.6	47.9	338
Physical or sexual violence¹					
Ever ²	36.6	18.4	9.9	40.5	1,277
Last 12 months	38.9	18.9	10.6	42.9	831
MEN					
Physical violence					
Ever ²	37.8	17.5	8.8	42.1	212
Last 12 months	36.9	16.8	7.8	42.2	154
Sexual violence					
Ever ²	15.0	10.0	6.6	15.8	71
Last 12 months	*	*	*	*	8
Physical or sexual violence					
Ever ²	31.2	14.2	7.4	34.8	265
Last 12 months	36.0	16.4	7.6	41.2	158

Notes: The term husband/wife includes a partner with whom a woman/man is living as if married. Husband/wife/intimate partner refers to the current husband or wife for currently married women/men; the most recent husband/wife for divorced, separated, or widowed women/men; the current intimate partner for never-married women or men who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married women or men who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Excludes women who reported violence only in response to a direct question on violence during pregnancy

² Includes violence in the last 12 months

Table 19.15 Violence by women and men against their spouses/intimate partners by background characteristics

Among women and men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a spouse or intimate partner, percentage who have committed physical violence against their current or most recent spouse/intimate partner when the spouse was not already beating or physically hurting the respondent, ever and in the last 12 months, according to respondent's own experience of intimate partner violence and background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Percentage of women who committed physical violence against their husband/intimate partner		Number of women who ever had a husband/intimate partner	Percentage of men who committed physical violence against their wife/intimate partner		Number of men who ever had a wife/intimate partner
	Ever ¹	Last 12 months		Ever ¹	Last 12 months	
Respondents who have experienced physical intimate partner violence						
Ever ¹	2.5	1.3	1,148	14.8	19.2	212
In the last 12 months	2.7	2.1	708	11.6	25.9	154
Never	0.6	0.3	3,343	3.8	2.9	3,188
Age						
15–19	0.3	0.0	530	0.0	1.4	363
20–24	1.2	0.7	791	0.3	2.5	538
25–29	1.6	0.8	722	1.6	4.9	498
30–39	1.0	0.6	1,342	5.5	5.2	1,113
40–49	1.0	0.5	1,105	9.2	3.6	887
Religion						
Catholic	0.9	0.5	1,668	4.2	4.0	1,434
Protestant	1.2	0.6	2,134	4.2	3.7	1,368
Adventist	0.6	0.3	536	5.0	4.6	402
Muslim	1.0	1.0	66	9.6	3.8	82
Jehovah	(7.6)	(4.3)	46	*	*	22
Other	*	*	3	*	*	1
No religion	(1.4)	(0.0)	38	7.9	1.9	92
Residence						
Urban	1.0	0.4	1,363	3.6	2.9	1,089
Rural	1.1	0.6	3,128	4.9	4.4	2,311
Province						
City of Kigali	0.7	0.0	636	3.4	2.1	587
Southern Province	1.3	0.7	985	6.1	4.3	800
Western Province	1.5	1.0	937	5.2	5.7	628
Northern Province	0.9	0.5	670	4.8	3.4	491
Eastern Province	0.8	0.4	1,262	3.0	3.8	894
Marital status						
Never married	0.9	0.4	1,273	0.3	1.2	1,081
Currently has intimate partner	0.8	0.4	973	0.2	1.7	753
Had intimate partner	1.0	0.5	300	0.5	0.0	328
Ever married	1.1	0.6	3,218	6.4	5.2	2,319
Married/living together	1.0	0.7	2,722	6.5	5.2	2,223
Divorced/separated/widowed	1.9	0.3	496	4.9	5.2	96
Education						
No education	1.9	1.4	304	10.8	5.2	226
Primary	1.2	0.6	2,571	5.3	4.6	2,051
Secondary	0.8	0.4	1,397	1.6	3.0	908
More than secondary	0.0	0.0	219	2.4	0.3	216

Continued...



Table 19.15—Continued

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Percentage of women who committed physical violence against their husband/intimate partner		Number of women who ever had a husband/intimate partner	Percentage of men who committed physical violence against their wife/intimate partner		Number of men who ever had a wife/intimate partner
	Ever ¹	Last 12 months		Ever ¹	Last 12 months	
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	1.3	0.7	872	4.6	5.8	617
Second	1.3	0.8	898	6.3	4.7	593
Middle	1.0	0.6	870	4.3	4.6	643
Fourth	1.1	0.6	907	4.1	3.0	763
Highest	0.7	0.2	942	3.5	2.2	785
Total 15–49	1.1	0.6	4,490	4.5	3.9	3,400
50–59	na	na	na	11.2	3.1	509
Total 15–59	na	na	na	5.3	3.8	3,909

Notes: The term husband/wife includes a partner with whom a woman/man is living as if married. Husband/wife/intimate partner refers to the current husband or wife for currently married women or men; the most recent husband/wife for divorced, separated, or widowed women or men; the current intimate partner for never-married women or men who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married women or men who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = not applicable

¹ Includes violence in the last 12 months

Table 19.16.1 Violence by women against their husbands/intimate partners by men's characteristics and women's empowerment indicators

Among women aged 15–49 years who have ever had a husband or intimate partner, percentage who have committed physical violence against their current or most recent husband/intimate partner when he was not already beating or physically hurting her, ever and in the last 12 months, according to husband/intimate partner's characteristics and women's empowerment indicators, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who committed physical violence against their husband/intimate partner		Number of women who ever had a husband/intimate partner
	Ever ¹	Last 12 months	
Husband/intimate partner's alcohol consumption			
Does not drink alcohol	0.2	0.1	2,590
Drinks alcohol but is never drunk	2.2	0.8	402
Is sometimes drunk	1.5	1.0	945
Is often drunk	3.4	2.0	553
Husband's education ²			
No education	0.4	0.0	254
Primary	1.3	0.8	1,759
Secondary	0.4	0.3	544
More than secondary	0.0	0.0	147
Don't know/missing	*	*	17
Spousal education difference ²			
Husband better educated	1.4	0.9	1,052
Wife better educated	0.6	0.3	1,090
Both equally educated	0.8	0.6	492
Neither educated	0.0	0.0	72
Don't know/missing	*	*	17
Spousal age difference ²			
Wife older	1.2	0.8	450
Wife is same age	1.5	1.5	245
Wife 1–4 years younger	0.5	0.2	1,024
Wife 5–9 years younger	1.2	0.6	636
Wife 10 or more years younger	1.4	1.4	367
Number of decisions in which woman participates ³			
0	0.9	0.9	165
1–2	1.0	0.6	864
3	1.0	0.7	1,693
Number of controlling behaviours displayed by husband/intimate partner ⁴			
0	0.3	0.2	2,069
1–2	1.3	0.6	1,555
3–4	2.3	1.1	710
5	3.1	1.6	156
Number of reasons for which wife beating is justified ⁵			
0	0.8	0.4	3,193
1–2	1.6	0.9	715
3–4	1.9	1.2	360
5	1.8	0.7	222
Woman's father beat mother			
Yes	1.7	0.8	1,508
No	0.7	0.5	2,662
Don't know	1.2	0.2	320

Continued...

Table 19.16.1—Continued

Background characteristic	Percentage of women who committed physical violence against their husband/intimate partner		Number of women who ever had a husband/intimate partner
	Ever ¹	Last 12 months	
Woman afraid of husband/ intimate partner			
Most of the time afraid	3.8	2.4	361
Sometimes afraid	1.6	1.1	900
Never afraid	0.6	0.2	3,230
Total	1.1	0.6	4,490

Notes: The term husband includes a partner with whom a woman is living as if married. Husband/intimate partner refers to the current husband for currently married women; the most recent husband for divorced, separated, or widowed women; the current intimate partner for never-married women who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married women who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Includes violence in the last 12 months

² Includes only currently married women

³ According to the wife's report. Includes only currently married women. See Table 15.8.1 for list of decisions.

⁴ According to the woman's report. See Table 19.9.1 for list of behaviours.

⁵ According to the woman's report. See Table 15.9.1 for list of reasons.

Table 19.16.2 Violence by men against their wives/ intimate partners by women's characteristics and men's decision-making

Among men aged 15–49 years who have ever had a wife or intimate partner, percentage who have committed physical violence against their current or most recent wife/intimate partner when she was not already beating or physically hurting him, ever and in the last 12 months, according to wife/intimate partner's characteristics and men's decision-making, Rwanda DHS 2025

	Percentage of men who committed physical violence against their wife/intimate partner		Number of men who ever had a wife/ intimate partner
Background characteristic	Ever ¹	Last 12 months	
Wife/intimate partner's alcohol consumption			
Does not drink alcohol	6.8	3.2	2,731
Drinks alcohol but is never drunk	11.0	3.8	460
Is sometimes drunk	23.5	13.2	158
Is often drunk	19.9	14.4	52
Number of decisions in which man participates ²			
0	2.4	1.7	1,211
1–2	11.7	5.1	2,189
Number of controlling behaviours displayed by wife/intimate partner ³			
0	4.2	1.8	1,859
1–2	12.0	5.6	1,267
3–4	20.4	10.3	258
5	*	*	16
Number of reasons for which wife beating is justified ⁴			
0	7.4	3.2	2,920
1–2	15.1	8.9	361
3–4	16.1	8.3	79
5	(6.1)	(1.9)	40
Father beat mother			
Yes	14.1	6.5	868
No	6.0	2.8	2,413
Don't know	15.6	6.5	119
Man afraid of wife/intimate partner			
Most of the time afraid	11.9	11.0	80
Sometimes afraid	20.1	10.8	247
Never afraid	7.8	3.4	2,908
Total 15–49	8.4	3.9	3,400
50–59	14.2	3.1	509
Total 15–59	9.1	3.8	3,909

Notes: The term wife includes a partner with whom a man is living as if married. Wife/intimate partner refers to the current wife for currently married men; the most recent wife for divorced, separated, or widowed men; the current intimate partner for never-married men who currently have an intimate partner; and the most recent intimate partner for never-married men who do not currently have an intimate partner but had one in the past. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Includes violence in the last 12 months

² According to the husband's report. Includes only currently married men. See Table 15.8.2 for list of decisions.

³ According to the man's report. See Table 19.9.2 for list of behaviours.

⁴ According to the man's report. See Table 15.9.2 for list of reasons.

Table 19.17.1 Help seeking to stop violence: Women

Percentage distribution of women aged 15–49 years who have ever experienced physical or sexual violence, by their help-seeking behaviour, according to type of violence and background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Type of violence/background characteristic	Sought help to stop violence	Never sought help but told someone	Never sought help, never told anyone	Total	Number of women who have ever experienced any physical or sexual violence
Type of violence experienced					
Physical only	38.3	25.3	36.4	100.0	1,081
Sexual only	25.6	33.2	41.2	100.0	353
Both physical and sexual	55.5	24.6	19.9	100.0	641
Age					
15–19	29.9	31.0	39.1	100.0	267
20–24	26.6	34.9	38.5	100.0	316
25–29	37.9	29.6	32.5	100.0	343
30–39	44.8	24.8	30.4	100.0	611
40–49	54.3	19.1	26.6	100.0	538
Religion					
Catholic	41.9	27.7	30.4	100.0	756
Protestant	40.5	26.4	33.0	100.0	1,005
Adventist	43.8	20.3	35.9	100.0	224
Muslim	(45.3)	(29.6)	(25.1)	100.0	34
Jehovah	*	*	*	100.0	25
No religion	(48.7)	(33.9)	(17.4)	100.0	30
Residence					
Urban	38.5	31.7	29.8	100.0	602
Rural	42.6	24.3	33.1	100.0	1,472
Province					
City of Kigali	35.3	39.4	25.3	100.0	303
Southern Province	36.2	27.8	36.0	100.0	506
Western Province	41.4	24.7	33.9	100.0	374
Northern Province	48.2	18.3	33.5	100.0	266
Eastern Province	45.8	23.6	30.6	100.0	626
Marital status					
Never married	26.8	34.4	38.8	100.0	578
Never had intimate partner	30.8	36.8	32.4	100.0	142
Ever had intimate partner	25.5	33.6	40.9	100.0	435
Ever married	47.1	23.4	29.6	100.0	1,497
Married/living together	43.7	23.0	33.3	100.0	1,152
Divorced/separated/widowed	58.5	24.4	17.1	100.0	345
Education					
No education	58.5	12.8	28.7	100.0	149
Primary	43.3	24.6	32.1	100.0	1,290
Secondary	35.9	31.8	32.3	100.0	576
More than secondary	(12.5)	(47.4)	(40.1)	100.0	59
Wealth quintile					
Lowest	46.9	23.1	30.0	100.0	499
Second	44.4	19.4	36.2	100.0	407
Middle	44.8	22.4	32.8	100.0	411
Fourth	38.2	30.4	31.4	100.0	397
Highest	30.2	39.2	30.6	100.0	361
Total	41.4	26.4	32.1	100.0	2,075

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 19.17.2 Help seeking to stop violence: Men

Percentage distribution of men aged 15–49 years who have ever experienced physical or sexual violence, by their help-seeking behaviour, according to type of violence and background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Type of violence/ background characteristic	Sought help to stop violence	Never sought help but told someone	Never sought help, never told anyone	Don't know	Total	Number of men who have ever experienced any physical or sexual violence
Type of violence experienced						
Physical only	31.8	25.3	43.0	0.0	100.0	855
Sexual only	8.0	25.9	61.6	4.5	100.0	111
Both physical and sexual	23.5	26.4	50.1	0.0	100.0	123
Age						
15–19	15.1	24.2	60.7	0.0	100.0	190
20–24	22.7	24.6	50.8	1.9	100.0	176
25–29	29.0	22.7	47.7	0.6	100.0	133
30–39	32.9	28.1	39.0	0.0	100.0	329
40–49	36.1	24.9	38.6	0.3	100.0	261
Religion						
Catholic	29.4	25.6	44.5	0.5	100.0	465
Protestant	26.1	26.5	46.9	0.6	100.0	433
Adventist	27.4	25.5	47.0	0.0	100.0	133
Muslim	*	*	*	*	100.0	20
Jehovah	*	*	*	*	100.0	9
No religion	(38.2)	(22.1)	(39.8)	(0.0)	100.0	30
Residence						
Urban	26.1	23.3	49.8	0.8	100.0	328
Rural	29.4	26.4	43.9	0.3	100.0	761
Province						
City of Kigali	21.4	28.8	48.1	1.8	100.0	140
Southern Province	28.5	29.6	41.6	0.2	100.0	331
Western Province	25.3	22.2	52.2	0.3	100.0	247
Northern Province	32.7	20.9	45.7	0.6	100.0	138
Eastern Province	33.3	23.7	43.0	0.0	100.0	233
Marital status						
Never married	18.0	23.9	57.5	0.6	100.0	428
Never had intimate partner	20.7	22.1	57.1	0.0	100.0	119
Ever had intimate partner	17.0	24.6	57.6	0.8	100.0	309
Ever married	35.1	26.4	38.0	0.4	100.0	661
Married/living together	34.1	27.2	38.2	0.4	100.0	608
Divorced/separated/ widowed	47.0	17.2	35.7	0.0	100.0	53
Education						
No education	43.6	25.8	30.6	0.0	100.0	68
Primary	30.7	25.3	43.6	0.4	100.0	659
Secondary	23.3	24.0	51.8	0.8	100.0	319
More than secondary	7.7	37.6	54.7	0.0	100.0	43
Wealth quintile						
Lowest	32.8	27.7	38.8	0.7	100.0	224
Second	31.5	22.7	45.4	0.4	100.0	228
Middle	31.6	25.4	43.0	0.0	100.0	190
Fourth	26.9	24.6	48.4	0.0	100.0	233
Highest	19.5	26.9	52.4	1.2	100.0	215
Total 15–49	28.4	25.4	45.7	0.5	100.0	1,089
50–59	36.0	21.3	42.7	0.0	100.0	153
Total 15–59	29.4	24.9	45.3	0.4	100.0	1,242

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.



Table 19.18 Sources for help to stop the violence

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who have experienced physical or sexual violence and sought help, by source from which they sought help, according to type of violence experienced, Rwanda DHS 2025

Source	Type of violence experienced			
	Physical only	Sexual only	Both physical and sexual	Physical or sexual
WOMEN				
Own family	39.2	44.0	35.7	38.3
Husband/intimate partner's family	23.7	3.9	19.6	19.9
Current or former husband/intimate partner	1.0	0.9	0.2	0.6
Current or former boyfriend	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.3
Friend	7.3	10.0	9.2	8.4
Neighbour	13.8	6.8	16.3	14.1
Religious leader	1.0	0.0	3.5	1.9
Doctor/medical personnel	0.7	5.8	2.3	1.9
Police	5.5	12.6	12.2	9.0
Lawyer	4.0	2.9	7.7	5.4
Social work organization	3.0	5.7	4.0	3.7
Other	1.4	0.5	0.9	1.1
Number of women who have sought help	414	90	356	860
MEN				
Own family	19.6	*	(7.9)	18.3
Wife/intimate partner's family	10.5	*	(5.4)	9.7
Current or former wife/intimate partner	0.9	*	(0.0)	0.8
Current or former girlfriend	0.3	*	(0.0)	0.3
Friend	8.4	*	(6.0)	8.9
Neighbour	15.0	*	(20.2)	15.9
Religious leader	1.4	*	(0.0)	1.2
Doctor/medical personnel	0.0	*	(0.0)	0.0
Police	9.7	*	(15.1)	9.9
Lawyer	7.2	*	(10.7)	7.7
Social work organization	0.2	*	(6.1)	0.7
Other	7.8	*	(6.2)	7.7
Number of men who have sought help	272	9	29	310

Notes: Respondents can report more than one source from which they sought help. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 19.19.1 Experience of technology-facilitated violence: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who have ever experienced specific forms of technology-facilitated violence, and percentage who have experienced at least one form of technology-facilitated violence, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Cyberbullying	Cyberstalking	Noncon-sensual distribution of sexually explicit images	Online gender-based hate speech	Using technology to coordinate physical violence	Hacking into your account	At least one form of technology-facilitated violence	Number of women
Age								
15–19	0.3	0.0	1.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.9	1,048
20–24	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.3	2.8	4.0	931
25–29	0.5	0.0	1.1	0.4	0.0	2.8	4.2	775
30–39	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.2	1.1	2.4	1,380
40–49	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.5	1.7	1,133
Religion								
Catholic	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.3	1.0	2.3	1,968
Protestant	0.5	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.1	1.5	2.9	2,504
Adventist	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.0	2.1	2.7	614
Muslim	1.4	0.0	1.9	1.4	0.0	2.2	2.6	80
Jehovah	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	2.5	4.7	55
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3
No religion	0.0	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	43
Residence								
Urban	0.6	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.1	2.2	3.4	1,661
Rural	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.2	1.0	2.4	3,606
Province								
City of Kigali	0.5	0.1	1.1	0.1	0.1	3.3	4.3	848
Southern Province	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.9	1.8	1,122
Western Province	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.9	1.7	1,110
Northern Province	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.1	1.0	779
Eastern Province	0.9	0.1	0.9	0.8	0.3	1.6	4.1	1,409
Marital status								
Never married	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.4	0.2	1.9	3.1	2,049
Never had intimate partner	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.8	1.3	777
Ever had intimate partner	0.3	0.1	1.0	0.4	0.2	2.6	4.2	1,273
Ever married	0.4	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.2	1.0	2.4	3,218
Married/living together	0.5	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.1	1.2	2.4	2,722
Divorced/separated/widowed	0.2	0.4	1.2	0.5	0.7	0.2	2.4	496
Education								
No education	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.6	327
Primary	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.9	2.1	2,923
Secondary	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.2	1.5	3.4	1,770
More than secondary	1.6	0.0	0.5	0.8	0.0	7.4	7.4	247
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.2	1.0	994
Second	0.0	0.1	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	1.9	1,034
Middle	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.3	1.1	2.2	1,012
Fourth	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.6	0.2	2.4	4.1	1,058
Highest	0.9	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.1	2.7	3.9	1,169
Total	0.4	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.2	1.4	2.7	5,267

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Table 19.19.2 Experience of technology-facilitated violence: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who have experienced specific forms of technology-facilitated violence, and percentage who have experienced at least one form of technology-facilitated violence, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Cyberbullying	Cyberstalking	Noncon-sensual distribution of sexually explicit images	Online gender-based hate speech	Using technology to coordinate physical violence	Hacking into your account	At least one form of technology-facilitated violence	Number of men
Age								
15–19	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6	2.0	1,010
20–24	0.4	0.0	1.2	0.4	0.2	3.1	5.0	762
25–29	1.1	0.3	1.6	0.3	0.1	3.3	6.3	565
30–39	1.1	0.5	1.0	0.2	0.4	2.8	5.0	1,163
40–49	1.3	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.3	3.2	5.6	902
Religion								
Catholic	1.0	0.3	0.9	0.3	0.5	2.1	4.3	1,832
Protestant	0.8	0.3	1.2	0.2	0.0	2.3	4.4	1,783
Adventist	1.1	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.0	2.7	4.8	529
Muslim	0.5	1.6	0.0	0.3	0.0	9.6	12.1	108
Jehovah	(0.0)	(0.0)	(4.4)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(4.4)	27
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
No religion	1.2	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	3.4	4.7	118
Residence								
Urban	1.0	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.1	3.5	5.7	1,383
Rural	0.9	0.3	1.0	0.2	0.3	2.0	4.1	3,019
Province								
City of Kigali	1.0	0.4	1.5	0.4	0.4	2.7	5.6	767
Southern Province	1.4	0.2	1.1	0.4	0.3	2.3	4.7	982
Western Province	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	2.8	3.9	828
Northern Province	0.1	0.4	1.8	0.4	0.4	1.8	4.4	633
Eastern Province	1.0	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.1	2.7	4.4	1,192
Marital status								
Never married	0.6	0.3	1.2	0.1	0.1	2.1	4.2	2,083
Never had intimate partner	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	2.3	3.0	1,002
Ever had intimate partner	0.7	0.5	2.1	0.2	0.1	2.0	5.3	1,081
Ever married	1.2	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.4	2.8	5.0	2,319
Married/living together	1.2	0.3	0.9	0.4	0.4	2.8	4.9	2,223
Divorced/separated/widowed	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	2.2	5.6	96
Education								
No education	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.3	0.0	2.9	3.9	257
Primary	0.6	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.2	1.3	2.7	2,605
Secondary	1.7	0.7	1.3	0.2	0.3	4.0	7.0	1,308
More than secondary	1.7	0.7	3.0	1.3	0.0	6.9	12.7	233
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.5	1.4	762
Second	0.6	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.0	2.1	3.3	783
Middle	0.8	0.1	1.5	0.3	0.3	1.4	3.6	859
Fourth	1.0	0.5	1.2	0.0	0.5	1.9	5.0	959
Highest	1.5	0.6	1.2	0.6	0.1	5.6	8.5	1,038
Total 15–49	0.9	0.3	1.0	0.3	0.2	2.5	4.6	4,402
50–59	0.7	0.2	1.0	0.2	0.3	2.8	4.2	517
Total 15–59	0.9	0.3	1.0	0.3	0.2	2.5	4.5	4,919

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

Key Findings

- **Knowledge of tuberculosis (TB):** 97% of women and 98% of men have heard of TB, and 88% of women and 91% of men know that TB can be cured.
- **Knowledge of modes of transmission of TB:** 68% of women and 72% of men know that TB is transmitted through the air by coughing and sneezing.
- **Knowledge of signs and symptoms of TB:** 91% of women and 96% of men recognize that persistent cough is a symptom of TB, and 7% of women and 5% of men reported experiencing one or more TB symptoms at the time of the survey.
- **Care-seeking behaviour for TB:** 43% of both women and men with TB symptoms at the time of the survey sought care or treatment. Among those who sought care, 69% of women and 58% of men sought care at a health centre.

Tuberculosis (TB) is a well-managed public health concern in Rwanda with an estimated number of cases ranging from 55–99 per 100,000 population in 2024 and a treatment success rate of 89% (WHO 2025). Rwanda's TB incidence rate is lower than that of several neighbouring countries. The country effectively utilizes community health workers (CHWs) for screening and uses GeneXpert technology for diagnosis. Key focus areas include combatting multidrug-resistant TB and addressing TB in high-risk populations.

The 2025 RDHS assessed knowledge of TB, including causes, modes of transmission (e.g., coughing), prevention methods, signs and symptoms, and treatment. The survey also assessed TB prevalence and care-seeking behaviour by asking if individuals with symptoms (e.g., chronic cough) sought care and, if so, where they sought it (public vs. private sources).

20.1 Knowledge of Tuberculosis

Knowledge of TB is widespread among the general population. Almost all women and men have heard of TB (97% and 98%, respectively), and the majority (88% and 91%, respectively) know that it can be cured. Additionally, 1% of women and 2% of men have ever been informed by a health care provider that they have TB (**Table 20.1**).

Among respondents who have heard of TB, 68% of women and 72% of men correctly cite that TB is spread through the air via coughing, sneezing, or speaking. However, substantial proportions of respondents have the misconception that TB can be spread by sharing utensils (37% of women and 45% of men), sharing food or drinks (22% of women and 10% of men), or touching a person with TB (10% of women and 11% of men) (**Table 20.2**).

Seeking prompt medical care for any TB symptom is the most effective way to prevent the disease from spreading, and covering one's mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing is critical for stopping airborne transmission. Fifty percent of women and 59% of men reported that seeking care for TB symptoms can prevent TB transmission, and 39% of women and 42% of men reported that covering one's mouth when sneezing can prevent transmission.

Survey respondents who had heard of TB were asked to identify symptoms that might indicate a person has TB. Persistent cough lasting 2 weeks or longer was the most commonly recognized symptom, reported by 91% of women and 96% of men. The second and third most cited signs and symptoms were fever (25% of women and 33% of men) and chest pain (16% of women and 22% of men) (**Table 20.3**).

20.2 Signs and Symptoms of Tuberculosis

Active TB primarily targets the lungs but can affect any part of the body. The most common symptoms include persistent cough, fever, night sweats, unexpected weight loss, general fatigue or malaise, and chest pain. At the time of the survey, 7% of women and 5% of men reported that they currently experienced at least one of these symptoms (**Table 20.4.1** and **Table 20.4.2**).

20.3 Care and Treatment for Tuberculosis

Nearly half (43%) of women and men aged 15–49 years who had at least one symptom associated with TB at the time of the survey sought help or treatment (**Table 20.5**). The majority who sought care for TB symptoms visited the public health sector. Among respondents with at least one symptom of TB who sought care, the most common source of care was a health centre, reported by 69% of women and 58% of men. The next most common source of care was a pharmacy, reported by 9% of women and 16% of men (**Table 20.6**).

List of Tables

For more information on TB, see the following tables:

- **Table 20.1** Knowledge of tuberculosis
- **Table 20.2** Knowledge of tuberculosis transmission and prevention
- **Table 20.3** Knowledge of specific symptoms of tuberculosis
- **Table 20.4.1** Experience of symptoms of tuberculosis: Women
- **Table 20.4.2** Experience of symptoms of tuberculosis: Men
- **Table 20.5** Care seeking for symptoms of tuberculosis
- **Table 20.6** Source of care for respondents with symptoms of tuberculosis



Table 20.1 Knowledge of tuberculosis

Percentage of women and men aged 15–49 years who have heard of tuberculosis (TB), percentage who know that TB can be cured, and percentage who have ever been told by a health care provider that they have TB, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women				Men			
	Percentage who have heard of TB	Percentage who know TB can be cured	Percentage ever told by a health care provider that they have TB	Number of women	Percentage who have heard of TB	Percentage who know TB can be cured	Percentage ever told by a health care provider that they have TB	Number of men
Age								
15–19	93.5	79.0	0.7	2,897	95.0	80.3	0.9	1,337
20–24	97.4	87.6	0.4	2,489	97.5	89.5	1.1	1,019
25–29	98.3	91.9	1.0	2,032	98.0	93.3	0.4	754
30–34	98.4	91.2	0.9	1,879	97.6	94.4	2.0	766
35–39	98.4	90.9	1.0	1,911	98.8	96.4	1.1	779
40–44	98.4	91.6	1.5	1,730	99.5	96.8	2.3	731
45–49	97.9	89.3	1.5	1,344	98.9	96.4	4.1	505
Residence								
Urban	97.8	90.2	1.3	4,570	98.4	93.4	2.0	1,889
Rural	96.9	87.0	0.8	9,713	97.2	89.8	1.2	4,002
Province								
City of Kigali	97.1	90.0	1.4	2,290	98.4	93.8	2.8	1,020
Southern Province	97.8	92.0	0.6	3,087	96.2	89.5	1.6	1,317
Western Province	95.9	82.8	1.0	2,949	96.4	86.8	1.4	1,100
Northern Province	96.9	89.2	0.5	2,089	97.7	90.5	1.0	862
Eastern Province	97.9	87.1	1.0	3,868	98.8	93.4	0.9	1,591
Education								
No education	95.0	79.8	1.0	929	95.3	87.1	3.0	347
Primary	96.7	86.2	0.8	7,938	96.9	89.4	1.3	3,469
Secondary	98.1	91.5	0.9	4,765	98.9	93.3	1.4	1,741
More than secondary	99.0	97.0	1.6	651	100.0	99.1	2.2	334
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	95.6	81.6	0.7	2,642	96.3	87.1	0.9	1,003
Second	96.4	85.3	0.6	2,738	96.6	88.8	1.0	1,021
Middle	97.6	89.9	0.9	2,746	97.8	90.2	2.2	1,167
Fourth	97.9	90.5	0.9	2,885	98.2	93.1	1.1	1,281
Highest	98.1	91.7	1.4	3,272	98.3	93.8	2.0	1,419
Total 15–49	97.2	88.0	0.9	14,283	97.6	90.9	1.5	5,891
50–59	na	na	na	na	99.5	95.9	4.3	657
Total 15–59	na	na	na	na	97.8	91.4	1.8	6,548

na = Not applicable

Table 20.2 Knowledge of tuberculosis transmission and prevention

Among women and men aged 15–49 years who have heard of tuberculosis (TB), percentage who cite specific modes of TB transmission and percentage who cite specific methods for preventing transmission, Rwanda DHS 2025

Mode of transmission/ Prevention method	Women	Men
Mode of transmission		
Through the air when coughing or sneezing	67.7	72.4
Sharing utensils	37.4	45.0
Touching a person with TB	9.7	10.5
Sharing food and drink	21.8	9.7
Sexual contact	3.6	1.0
Mosquito bites	0.1	0.0
Other	6.8	14.9
Don't know	12.0	7.2
Method for preventing transmission		
Seek for care for TB symptoms	50.4	58.6
Cover mouth when sneezing	39.0	41.6
Open windows	2.8	2.6
Wear face mask	4.9	3.7
Isolate	7.8	8.2
Avoid sharing cooking utensils	11.0	7.6
Other	6.1	8.9
Don't know	11.1	6.5
Number of respondents who have heard of TB	13,880	5,747

Table 20.3 Knowledge of specific symptoms of tuberculosis

Among women and men aged 15–49 years who have heard of tuberculosis (TB), percentage who cite specific symptoms of TB, Rwanda DHS 2025

Symptom	Women	Men
Cough for more than 2 weeks	91.3	95.5
Fever	24.7	32.6
Drenching night sweats	7.6	8.7
Unexpected weight loss	9.8	10.5
General fatigue or malaise	7.9	10.1
Chest pain	16.1	22.0
Don't know	0.0	3.5
Number of respondents who have heard of TB	13,880	5,747

Table 20.4.1 Experience of symptoms of tuberculosis: Women

Percentage of women aged 15–49 years who had symptoms associated with tuberculosis at the time of the survey, by background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Cough	Fever	Drenching night sweats	Unexpected weight loss	General fatigue or malaise	Chest pain	At least one of these symptoms	Number of women who have heard of tuberculosis
Age								
15–19	3.5	0.8	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.7	6.7	2,709
20–24	3.1	0.5	1.2	1.9	2.7	1.6	7.0	2,425
25–29	2.3	0.3	0.3	1.8	1.7	1.7	5.8	1,997
30–34	3.0	0.7	1.3	1.9	2.5	2.1	6.5	1,850
35–39	2.2	1.0	1.3	2.1	3.1	2.4	6.7	1,880
40–44	2.7	1.0	1.7	2.9	3.4	3.1	8.0	1,703
45–49	3.5	1.1	2.1	2.8	4.0	3.8	9.9	1,316
Residence								
Urban	2.2	0.5	0.8	0.9	1.5	1.1	4.8	4,469
Rural	3.2	0.9	1.5	2.6	3.2	2.7	8.2	9,411
Province								
City of Kigali	1.6	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.4	2.3	2,223
Southern Province	3.3	1.0	1.8	3.5	3.7	3.1	9.3	3,017
Western Province	2.9	1.0	1.9	2.4	3.6	3.0	8.1	2,828
Northern Province	2.4	0.7	0.8	1.5	2.3	1.9	5.8	2,025
Eastern Province	3.5	0.7	1.3	2.1	2.5	2.1	8.0	3,787
Education								
No education	3.2	1.0	1.8	2.7	3.4	3.0	8.8	882
Primary	3.0	0.9	1.6	2.5	3.1	2.8	8.0	7,679
Secondary	2.9	0.5	0.8	1.3	1.9	1.4	5.9	4,675
More than secondary	1.2	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	2.3	644
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	3.5	1.0	1.8	3.6	4.4	3.5	10.1	2,527
Second	3.2	0.9	1.7	2.7	3.0	2.7	8.1	2,640
Middle	3.0	0.7	1.5	2.1	2.8	2.4	7.6	2,678
Fourth	2.6	0.7	1.1	1.5	1.9	2.0	6.4	2,824
Highest	2.3	0.5	0.5	0.7	1.2	0.8	4.1	3,211
Total	2.9	0.8	1.3	2.0	2.6	2.2	7.1	13,880

Table 20.4.2 Experience of symptoms of tuberculosis: Men

Percentage of men aged 15–49 years who had symptoms associated with tuberculosis at the time of the survey, by background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Cough	Fever	Drenching night sweats	Unexpected weight loss	General fatigue or malaise	Chest pain	At least one of these symptoms	Number of men who have heard of tuberculosis
Age								
15–19	2.7	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.7	3.9	1,270
20–24	2.0	0.3	1.0	0.7	1.0	0.8	4.4	994
25–29	2.0	0.5	1.4	0.5	2.0	1.8	4.3	738
30–34	2.8	0.4	0.7	1.0	2.1	1.1	5.0	747
35–39	2.2	0.8	1.7	2.3	1.7	2.4	6.2	770
40–44	2.1	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.9	2.3	4.8	727
45–49	3.2	0.6	1.1	2.9	2.7	3.1	7.2	500
Residence								
Urban	2.5	0.5	0.9	0.7	1.3	0.8	4.4	1,858
Rural	2.4	0.5	1.0	1.2	1.6	1.9	5.1	3,889
Province								
City of Kigali	3.5	0.7	1.0	0.7	1.4	0.9	5.3	1,004
Southern Province	3.7	0.8	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.9	6.5	1,267
Western Province	2.2	0.3	1.1	1.5	2.0	2.3	5.7	1,060
Northern Province	1.9	0.1	0.4	0.5	1.5	1.5	4.7	843
Eastern Province	1.0	0.4	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	2.9	1,573
Education								
No education	3.2	0.7	1.3	1.8	2.9	3.4	7.4	331
Primary	2.2	0.3	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.8	5.1	3,360
Secondary	2.1	0.7	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.6	3.8	1,721
More than secondary	5.1	1.1	1.2	0.4	1.2	1.8	5.9	334
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	3.1	0.6	1.4	2.4	2.2	3.1	6.9	965
Second	2.1	0.5	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.5	4.7	987
Middle	2.0	0.5	1.1	1.0	2.2	1.9	5.1	1,141
Fourth	2.2	0.2	0.7	0.6	1.4	1.1	4.5	1,258
Highest	2.6	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.6	3.8	1,396
Total 15–49	2.4	0.5	0.9	1.0	1.5	1.6	4.9	5,747
50–59	3.2	1.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.1	6.6	654
Total 15–59	2.5	0.6	1.1	1.1	1.6	1.6	5.1	6,401

Table 20.5 Care seeking for symptoms of tuberculosis

Among women and men aged 15–49 years who had symptoms associated with tuberculosis (TB) at the time of the survey, percentage who sought care, according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women		Men	
	Percentage who sought care	Number of women who reported at least one symptom of TB ¹	Percentage who sought care	Number of men who reported at least one symptom of TB ¹
Age				
15–19	31.3	183	(33.5)	50
20–24	36.4	171	(37.0)	44
25–29	46.8	116	(60.2)	32
30–34	44.6	121	(50.2)	37
35–39	49.0	127	(36.9)	48
40–44	48.1	136	(41.5)	35
45–49	49.5	130	(46.5)	36
Residence				
Urban	44.0	214	45.4	82
Rural	42.3	768	41.2	200
Province				
City of Kigali	(48.3)	52	(46.8)	53
Southern Province	42.5	281	38.3	82
Western Province	47.4	229	41.3	60
Northern Province	46.2	118	(51.5)	40
Eastern Province	36.8	302	(38.5)	46
Education				
No education	46.8	77	(34.4)	25
Primary	40.4	616	40.8	172
Secondary	46.4	274	45.5	65
More than secondary	*	15	*	20
Wealth quintile				
Lowest	33.9	255	30.3	66
Second	43.9	213	(44.9)	46
Middle	44.7	203	43.8	59
Fourth	46.0	180	55.1	57
Highest	49.7	132	40.4	53
Total 15–49	42.6	982	42.5	281
50–59	na	na	(41.2)	43
Total 15–59	na	na	42.3	325

Note: Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

na = Not applicable

¹ Symptoms of TB are described in Tables 20.4.1 and 20.4.2.

Table 20.6 Source of care for respondents with symptoms of tuberculosis

Among women and men aged 15–49 years with symptoms associated with tuberculosis (TB) at the time of the survey, percentage who sought care from specific sources; and among those who sought care, percentage who sought care from specific sources, Rwanda DHS 2025

Source of care	Women		Men	
	Percentage who sought care from each source:		Percentage who sought care from each source:	
	Among women with at least one symptom of TB ¹	Among women with at least one symptom of TB ¹ who sought care	Among men with at least one symptom of TB ¹	Among men with at least one symptom of TB ¹ who sought care
Public sector				
Referral hospital	1.3	3.0	0.1	0.2
Provincial/district hospital	2.7	6.3	5.4	12.7
Health centre	29.3	68.7	24.8	58.4
Health post	2.7	6.3	1.9	4.5
CHW	0.4	1.0	0.0	0.0
Other public sector	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.8
Private medical sector				
Polyclinic	0.4	1.0	0.0	0.0
Private clinic	0.9	2.2	1.2	2.8
Dispensary	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0
Pharmacy	3.9	9.1	6.6	15.6
Other source				
Church	0.7	1.6	0.8	1.8
Friend/Relative	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Number of respondents aged 15–49 years	982	419	281	119

Note: Care or help for respondents with one or more symptoms of TB may have been sought from more than one source.

CHW=community health worker

¹ Symptoms of TB are described in Tables 20.4.1 and 20.4.2.





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A.1 Introduction

The 2025 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (2025 RDHS) follows those implemented in 1992, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2014–15, and 2019–20. A nationally representative sample of 560 clusters and 14,560 households was selected. All women aged 15–49 years who were usual residents of the selected households or who slept in the households the night before the survey were eligible for the survey. The survey was expected to result in about 16,352 interviews of women aged 15–49 years. As with the prior surveys, the main objectives of the 2025 RDHS survey were to provide up-to-date information on fertility and childhood mortality levels; fertility preferences; awareness, approval, and use of family planning methods; maternal and child health; knowledge of and attitudes toward HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs); and the prevalence of HIV among the adult population.

Apart from the female survey, a male survey was conducted at the same time in a subsample consisting of one household in every two selected for the female survey. All men aged 15–59 years who were usual residents of the selected households or who slept in the households the night before the survey were eligible for the male survey. The survey collected information on their basic demographic and social status, on their knowledge and use of family planning methods, and on their knowledge of and attitudes toward HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections. The survey was expected to result in about 7,237 interviews of men aged 15–59 years.

In all selected households, children under age 5 were eligible to be measured for height and weight. In the subsample of households selected for the men’s survey, women aged 15–49 years and men aged 15–59 years were eligible for height and weight measurements and HIV testing. In the same subsample, women aged 15–49 years and children aged 6–59 months were eligible for anemia testing. The domestic violence module for men was implemented in households selected for the male interview, and the domestic violence module for women was implemented in the remaining 50% of households that were not selected for the male interview.

The survey was designed to produce representative estimates for the main demographic and health indicators for the country as a whole, for urban and rural areas separately, and for each of the five provinces. For some indicators, representative results may be available for each of the 30 districts.

A.2 Sampling Frame

The sampling frame used for the 2025 RDHS is the 2022 Rwanda Population and Housing Census (2022 RPHC) frame. The sampling frame is a complete list of enumeration areas (EAs) covering the whole country provided by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), the implementing agency for the 2025 RDHS. An EA is a natural village, or a part of a village, created for the 2022 RPHC that served as a counting unit for the census. Each EA includes identification information, administrative information, and a measure of size, which is the number of residential households within the EA. Each EA is also classified into one of the two types of residence: urban and rural. In addition, each EA has accompanying cartographic materials that delineate its geographic location, boundaries, main access, and landmarks, which helps to identify the EA. **Table A.1** shows the distribution of households by province, district, and type of residence. The table also shows the percentage of households that are urban in each province and district, and the percentage distribution of households by province and district. The percentage share of households by province varies from 15% in the City of Kigali to 27% in the Eastern Province. In Rwanda, 28% of households are in urban areas. The percentage of households in urban areas is highest in the City of Kigali (87%) and lowest in the Southern Province (15%).

Table A.1 Distribution of households by province, district, and residence type

Province/ district	Distribution of households			Percentage share	
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Province/ district
City of Kigali	432,432	56,436	488,868	86.9	14.8
Nyarugenge	91,603	12,382	103,985	84.4	3.1
Gasabo	206,614	42,806	249,420	81.2	7.5
Kicukiro	134,215	1,248	135,463	99.1	4.1
Southern Province	108,719	651,454	760,173	14.8	22.9
Nyanza	9,087	83,920	93,007	9.2	2.8
Gisagara	3,395	97,750	101,145	3.4	3.1
Nyaruguru	1,902	71,903	73,805	2.4	2.2
Huye	17,208	78,829	96,037	20.9	2.9
Nyamagabe	8,888	83,164	92,052	10.9	2.8
Ruhango	10,576	83,932	94,508	10.9	2.9
Muhanga	21,089	72,152	93,241	24.3	2.8
Kamonyi	36,574	79,804	116,378	31.6	3.5
Western Province	148,659	522,847	671,506	22.1	20.3
Karongi	8,794	82,650	91,444	9.0	2.8
Rutsiro	4,951	81,851	86,802	5.6	2.6
Rubavu	69,462	54,618	124,080	53.9	3.7
Nyabihu	18,485	57,906	76,391	24.5	2.3
Ngororero	4,560	88,063	92,623	4.9	2.8
Rusizi	35,056	69,881	104,937	33.4	3.2
Nyamasheke	7,351	87,878	95,229	7.7	2.9
Northern Province	88,394	417,670	506,064	17.4	15.3
Rulindo	9,898	82,011	91,909	10.6	2.8
Gakenke	4,009	89,600	93,609	4.0	2.8
Musanze	58,426	60,961	119,387	49.2	3.6
Burera	9,158	82,628	91,786	9.9	2.8
Gicumbi	6,903	102,470	109,373	6.3	3.3
Eastern Province	186,083	700,049	886,132	20.9	26.7
Rwamagana	41,920	79,131	121,051	37.1	3.7
Nyagatare	40,099	120,336	160,435	24.1	4.8
Gatsibo	14,325	121,883	136,208	10.0	4.1
Kayanza	17,233	96,953	114,186	14.2	3.4
Kirehe	7,700	106,186	113,886	6.3	3.4
Ngoma	9,196	93,393	102,589	9.2	3.1
Bugesera	55,610	82,167	137,777	40.1	4.2
Rwanda	964,287	2,348,456	3,312,743	27.9	100.0

Table A.2 shows the distribution of EAs by province, district, and type of residence. There are 24,073 EAs in the census frame, excluding 274 institutional EAs; among them, 6,479 are in urban areas and 17,594 are in rural areas. The average EA size is 138 households; urban EAs are slightly larger (average of 149 households) than rural EAs (average of 133 households). The EA size is adequate to serve as a primary sampling unit (PSU) with a sample take of 26 households per EA.



Table A.2 Distribution of EAs and their average size in number of households by province, district, and residence type

Province/ district	Number of EAs			Average EA size		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
City of Kigali	2,862	390	3,252	151	145	150
Nyarugenge	604	85	689	152	146	151
Gasabo	1,371	296	1,667	151	145	150
Kicukiro	887	9	896	151	139	151
Southern Province	702	4,857	5,559	155	134	137
Nyanza	61	620	681	149	135	137
Gisagara	25	704	729	136	139	139
Nyaruguru	13	545	558	146	132	132
Huye	117	591	708	147	133	136
Nyamagabe	50	628	678	178	132	136
Ruhango	71	643	714	149	131	132
Muhanga	133	545	678	159	132	138
Kamonyi	232	581	813	158	137	143
Western Province	1,080	3,982	5,062	138	131	133
Karongi	64	610	674	137	135	136
Rutsiro	40	623	663	124	131	131
Rubavu	498	408	906	139	134	137
Nyabihu	134	464	598	138	125	128
Ngororero	33	660	693	138	133	134
Rusizi	255	531	786	137	132	134
Nyamasheke	56	686	742	131	128	128
Northern Province	608	3,217	3,825	145	130	132
Rulindo	70	642	712	141	128	129
Gakenke	27	696	723	148	129	129
Musanze	391	466	857	149	131	139
Burera	70	640	710	131	129	129
Gicumbi	50	773	823	138	133	133
Eastern Province	1,227	5,148	6,375	152	136	139
Rwamagana	283	571	854	148	139	142
Nyagatare	264	915	1,179	152	132	136
Gatsibo	90	906	996	159	135	137
Kayanza	112	713	825	154	136	138
Kirehe	52	745	797	148	143	143
Ngoma	69	704	773	133	133	133
Bugesera	357	594	951	156	138	145
Rwanda	6,479	17,594	24,073	149	133	138

A.3 Sample Design and Implementation

The sampling procedure used for the 2025 RDHS was two-stage stratified sampling. Stratification was achieved by separating each of the 30 districts into urban and rural areas, forming two sampling strata per district. In total, 60 sampling strata were created. Samples were selected independently in each sampling stratum via a two-stage selection process. In the first stage, 560 EAs were selected from the census frame using a probability proportional to size sampling procedure according to the sample allocation given in **Table A.3**. Before the selection, the sampling frame was sorted by province, district, and lower-level administrative units within each sampling stratum. This resulted in an implicit stratification with proportional allocation at lower-level administrative units using a probability proportional to size selection procedure.

After the first-stage selection and before the main survey, a household listing operation was carried out in all selected EAs. The household listing operation consisted of (1) visiting each of the 560 selected EAs to draw a location map and a detailed sketch map and (2) recording on the household listing forms all residential households found in the EA with the address and the name of the head of the household. The resulting list of households served as the sampling frame in the second stage for the selection of households.

During the second stage, a fixed number of 26 households were selected from the newly established household listing from each cluster. Household selection was performed in the central office prior to the survey. The survey interviewers were asked to conduct interviews only in the preselected households. No replacements and no changes of the preselected households were allowed in the implementation stage to prevent bias.



Table A.3 shows the sample allocation of clusters and households by province, district, and residence type. Among the 560 clusters, 198 were selected from urban areas and 362 from rural areas. A fixed sample take of 26 households per cluster was expected to result in a total of 14,560 sampled households, 5,148 from urban areas and 9,412 from rural areas.

Table A.3 Sample allocation of clusters and households by province, district, and residence type

Province/district	Allocation of clusters			Allocation of households		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
City of Kigali	51	16	67	1,326	416	1,742
Nyarugenge	13	5	18	338	130	468
Gasabo	19	9	28	494	234	728
Kicukiro	19	2	21	494	52	546
Southern Province	38	102	140	988	2,652	3,640
Nyanza	4	13	17	104	338	442
Gisagara	3	15	18	78	390	468
Nyaruguru	2	13	15	52	338	390
Huye	6	12	18	156	312	468
Nyamagabe	4	13	17	104	338	442
Ruhango	5	13	18	130	338	468
Muhanga	6	11	17	156	286	442
Kamonyi	8	12	20	208	312	520
Western Province	39	84	123	1,014	2,184	3,198
Karongi	4	13	17	104	338	442
Rutsiro	3	13	16	78	338	416
Rubavu	11	9	20	286	234	520
Nyabihu	6	10	16	156	260	416
Ngororero	3	14	17	78	364	442
Rusizi	8	11	19	208	286	494
Nyamasheke	4	14	18	104	364	468
Northern Province	25	65	90	650	1,690	2,340
Rulindo	4	13	17	104	338	442
Gakenke	3	14	17	78	364	442
Musanze	10	10	20	260	260	520
Burera	4	13	17	104	338	442
Gicumbi	4	15	19	104	390	494
Eastern Province	45	95	140	1,170	2,470	3,640
Rwamagana	8	11	19	208	286	494
Nyagatare	8	14	22	208	364	572
Gatsibo	5	16	21	130	416	546
Kayanza	6	14	20	156	364	520
Kirehe	4	14	18	104	364	468
Ngoma	4	14	18	104	364	468
Bugesera	10	12	22	260	312	572
Rwanda	198	362	560	5,148	9,412	14,560

Table A.4 shows the sample allocation of the expected number of women aged 15–49 years and men aged 15–59 years interviewed by province, district, and type of residence. The survey was expected to interview about 16,352 women aged 15–49 years (6,203 from urban areas and 10,149 from rural areas). The male survey, conducted in 50% of the households selected, was expected to interview about 7,237 men aged 15–59 years (2,675 from urban areas and 4,562 from rural areas).

Table A.4 Sample allocation of expected number of women aged 15–49 years and men aged 15–59 years interviewed by province, district, and type of residence

Province/district	Expected number of interviews with women aged 15–49 years			Expected number of interviews with men aged 15–59 years		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
City of Kigali	1,598	448	2,046	689	202	891
Nyarugenge	408	141	549	175	63	238
Gasabo	595	252	847	257	114	371
Kicukiro	595	55	650	257	25	282
Southern Province	1,189	2,863	4,052	513	1,286	1,799
Nyanza	126	365	491	54	164	218
Gisagara	94	421	515	41	189	230
Nyaruguru	62	365	427	27	164	191
Huye	187	337	524	81	151	232
Nyamagabe	126	365	491	54	164	218
Ruhango	157	365	522	67	164	231
Muhanga	187	308	495	81	139	220
Kamonyi	250	337	587	108	151	259
Western Province	1,222	2,354	3,576	528	1,059	1,587
Karongi	126	365	491	54	164	218
Rutsiro	94	365	459	41	164	205
Rubavu	345	252	597	149	114	263
Nyabihu	187	280	467	81	126	207
Ngororero	94	392	486	41	176	217
Rusizi	250	308	558	108	139	247
Nyamasheke	126	392	518	54	176	230
Northern Province	785	1,823	2,608	338	819	1,157
Rulindo	126	365	491	54	164	218
Gakenke	94	392	486	41	176	217
Musanze	313	280	593	135	126	261
Burera	126	365	491	54	164	218
Gicumbi	126	421	547	54	189	243
Eastern Province	1,409	2,661	4,070	607	1,196	1,803
Rwamagana	250	308	558	108	139	247
Nyagatare	250	392	642	108	176	284
Gatsibo	157	448	605	67	202	269
Kayanza	187	392	579	81	176	257
Kirehe	126	392	518	54	176	230
Ngoma	126	392	518	54	176	230
Bugesera	313	337	650	135	151	286
Rwanda	6,203	10,149	16,352	2,675	4,562	7,237

Note: The male survey was conducted in 50% of selected households.

The sample calculations for the 2025 RDHS were based on the results of the 2019–20 RDHS: the average number of women aged 15–49 years per household was 1.23 in urban areas and 1.10 in rural areas, the average number of men aged 15–59 years per household was 1.06 in urban areas and 0.99 in rural areas, the household response rate was 99%, the individual women’s response rate was 99%, and the individual men’s response rate was also 99%.

A.4 Sample Probabilities and Sampling Weights

Because of the nonproportional allocation of the sample to the different reporting domains, sampling weights are required for any analysis using the 2025 RDHS data to ensure the actual representativeness of the results. Since the 2025 RDHS sample was a two-stage stratified cluster sample, sampling weights were calculated based on sampling probabilities at each sampling phase and stage for each cluster. The following notations were used:

P_{1hi} : first-stage sampling probability of the i^{th} cluster in stratum h

P_{2hi} : second-stage sampling probability within the i^{th} cluster (households)

P_{hi} : overall sampling probability of any households of the i^{th} cluster in stratum h

Let n_h be the number of EAs selected in stratum h , M_{hi} the number of households in the i^{th} EA according to the sampling frame, and $\sum_i M_{hi}$ the total number of households in stratum h . The probability of selecting the i^{th} EA in the 2025 RDHS sample was calculated as follows:



$$P_{1hi} = \frac{n_h \times M_{hi}}{\sum_i M_{hi}}$$

Let L_{hi} be the number of households listed in the household listing operation in the EA or in the segment selected if the EA was segmented; let m_{hi} be the number of households selected in the cluster. The second stage's selection probability for each household in the cluster i of stratum h was calculated as follows:

$$P_{2hi} = \frac{m_{hi}}{L_{hi}}$$

The overall selection probability for each household in cluster i of stratum h was therefore the product of the two-stage selection probabilities:

$$P_{hi} = P_{1hi} \times P_{2hi}$$

The design weight for each household in cluster i of stratum h was the inverse of its overall selection probability:

$$W_{hi} = 1/P_{hi}$$

A spreadsheet containing all sampling parameters and selection probabilities was prepared to facilitate the calculation of the design weights. Design weights were adjusted for household nonresponse as well as for individual nonresponse to obtain the sampling weights for households and for women and men, respectively. All of the nonresponse adjustments were done at the sampling stratum level. Differences in the household sampling weights and the individual sampling weights were introduced by individual nonresponse. The final sampling weights were normalized so that the total number of unweighted cases would be equal to the total number of weighted cases at the national level for both household weights and individual weights. The HIV testing weights were normalized for women and men together at the national level so that the HIV prevalence rates calculated for women and men in combination were valid. Sampling weights for the domestic violence module were calculated based on the number of eligible female and male respondents in the households selected for the women's domestic violence module and the men's domestic violence module, respectively. The following sets of weights were calculated:

- one set for all households selected for the survey
- one set for the women's individual survey
- one set for households selected for the male survey
- one set for the men's individual survey
- one set for the women's domestic violence module
- one set for the men's domestic violence module
- one set for women's HIV testing
- one set for men's HIV testing

It is important to note that normalized weights are relative weights that are valid for estimating means, proportions, and ratios but not valid for estimating population totals or for pooled data. Normalization must be done at the national level; normalizing weights in a piece-wise manner, for example province by province, can introduce bias for national indicators. Also, the number of weighted cases using the normalized weight has no direct relation with survey precision because it is relative. Especially for oversampled areas, the number of weighted cases is much smaller than the number of unweighted cases, with only the latter being directly related to survey precision.

Sampling errors were calculated for selected indicators for the national sample, for urban and rural areas separately, and for each of the five provinces.



A.5 Survey Results

Table A.5 Sample implementation: Women

Percentage distribution of households and eligible women aged 15–49 years by results of the household and individual interviews, and household, eligible women, and overall women response rates, according to urban-rural residence and province (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Result	Residence		Province					Total
	Urban	Rural	City of Kigali	Southern Province	Western Province	Northern Province	Eastern Province	
Selected households								
Completed (C)	98.5	99.4	97.7	99.1	99.4	99.2	99.4	99.1
Household present but no competent respondent at home (HP)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Postponed (P)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Refused (R)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dwelling not found (DNF)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Household absent (HA)	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2
Dwelling vacant/address not a dwelling (DV)	0.8	0.4	1.3	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.6
Dwelling destroyed (DD)	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of sampled households	5,148	9,412	1,742	3,640	3,198	2,340	3,640	14,560
Household response rate (HRR) ¹	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Eligible women								
Completed (EWC)	99.1	99.3	98.8	99.1	99.3	99.5	99.3	99.2
Not at home (EWNH)	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3
Refused (EWR)	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Incapacitated (EWI)	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4
Other (EWO)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of women	5,344	9,052	1,774	3,454	3,249	2,240	3,679	14,396
Eligible women response rate (EWRR) ²	99.1	99.3	98.8	99.1	99.3	99.5	99.3	99.2
Overall women response rate (OWRR) ³	99.0	99.3	98.8	99.0	99.3	99.4	99.2	99.2

¹ Using the number of households falling into specific response categories, the household response rate (HRR) is calculated as:

$$\frac{100 * C}{C + HP + P + R + DNF}$$

² The eligible women response rate (EWRR) is equivalent to the percentage of interviews completed (EWC).

³ The overall women response rate (OWRR) is calculated as:

$$OWRR = HRR * EWRR / 100$$

Table A.6 Sample implementation: Men

Percentage distribution of households and eligible men aged 15–59 years by results of the household and individual interviews, and household, eligible men, and overall men response rates, according to urban-rural residence and province (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

	Residence		Province					
Result	Urban	Rural	City of Kigali	Southern Province	Western Province	Northern Province	Eastern Province	Total
Selected households								
Completed (C)	98.6	99.4	97.9	99.2	99.2	99.1	99.4	99.1
Household present but no competent respondent at home (HP)	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Postponed (P)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Refused (R)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dwelling not found (DNF)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Household absent (HA)	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Dwelling vacant/address not a dwelling (DV)	0.9	0.5	1.4	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.6
Dwelling destroyed (DD)	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of sampled households	2,574	4,706	871	1,820	1,599	1,170	1,820	7,280
Household response rate (HRR) ¹	100.0	99.9	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.0	99.9	99.9
Eligible men								
Completed (EMC)	97.0	98.9	96.3	98.8	98.1	98.5	98.5	98.2
Not at home (EMNH)	1.5	0.6	2.0	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.9
Refused (EMR)	0.5	0.0	0.8	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.2
Incapacitated (EMI)	0.9	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.6
Other (EMO)	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of men	2,397	4,270	868	1,685	1,365	1,058	1,691	6,667
Eligible men response rate (EMRR) ²	97.0	98.9	96.3	98.8	98.1	98.5	98.5	98.2
Overall men response rate (OMRR) ³	96.9	98.9	96.3	98.7	98.0	98.5	98.5	98.2

¹ Using the number of households falling into specific response categories, the household response rate (HRR) is calculated as:

$$\frac{100 * C}{C + HP + P + R + DNF}$$

² The eligible men response rate (EMRR) is equivalent to the percentage of interviews completed (EMC).

³ The overall men response rate (OMRR) is calculated as:

$$OMRR = HRR * EMRR / 100$$

Table A.7 Coverage of HIV testing by social and demographic characteristics: Women

Percentage distribution of interviewed women aged 15–49 years by HIV testing status, according to social and demographic characteristics (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Characteristic	HIV test status			Total	Number of women
	DBS tested ¹	Refused to provide blood	Absent at the time of blood collection		
Marital status					
Never married	99.2	0.7	0.1	100.0	2,781
Ever had sexual intercourse	98.9	0.9	0.2	100.0	1,043
Never had sexual intercourse	99.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	1,738
Married/living together	99.4	0.6	0.0	100.0	3,681
Divorced or separated	99.5	0.3	0.2	100.0	573
Widowed	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	138
Type of union					
In polygynous union	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	290
In nonpolygynous union	99.4	0.6	0.0	100.0	3,338
Not currently in union	99.3	0.6	0.1	100.0	3,492
Don't know/missing	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	53
Ever had sexual intercourse					
Yes	99.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	5,434
No	99.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	1,739
Maternity status					
Pregnant	99.2	0.8	0.0	100.0	370
Not pregnant or not sure	99.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	6,803
Religion					
Catholic	99.3	0.6	0.1	100.0	2,725
Protestant	99.6	0.4	0.0	100.0	3,344
Adventist	99.3	0.6	0.1	100.0	898
Muslim	97.1	2.9	0.0	100.0	104
Traditional	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1
Jehovah	97.7	2.3	0.0	100.0	43
Other	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	2
No religion	96.4	3.6	0.0	100.0	56
Total	99.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	7,173

¹ Includes all dried blood spot (DBS) specimens tested at the lab and for which there is a final result, i.e., positive, negative, or inconclusive



Table A.8 Coverage of HIV testing by social and demographic characteristics: Men

Percentage distribution of interviewed men aged 15–49 years by HIV testing status, according to social and demographic characteristics (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Characteristic	HIV test status				Total	Number of men
	DBS tested ¹	Refused to provide blood	Absent at the time of blood collection	Other ²		
Marital status						
Never married	98.9	0.5	0.4	0.1	100.0	2,786
Ever had sexual intercourse	98.3	0.9	0.6	0.2	100.0	1,210
Never had sexual intercourse	99.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	100.0	1,576
Married/living together	99.4	0.5	0.2	0.0	100.0	2,963
Divorced or separated	97.4	0.9	1.7	0.0	100.0	116
Widowed	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	16
Type of union						
In polygynous union	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	65
In nonpolygynous union	99.3	0.5	0.2	0.0	100.0	2,898
Not currently in union	98.9	0.5	0.5	0.1	100.0	2,918
Ever had sexual intercourse						
Yes	99.0	0.6	0.3	0.1	100.0	4,305
No	99.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	100.0	1,576
Circumcision status						
Traditionally or medically circumcised ³	98.9	0.7	0.4	0.0	100.0	4,241
Traditionally circumcised only	99.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	100.0	99
Medically circumcised only	98.9	0.7	0.4	0.0	100.0	4,124
Both traditionally and medically circumcised	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	11
Other ⁴	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	7
Not circumcised or don't know	99.6	0.1	0.2	0.1	100.0	1,640
Religion						
Catholic	99.1	0.4	0.4	0.1	100.0	2,463
Protestant	99.4	0.5	0.2	0.0	100.0	2,356
Adventist	98.9	0.7	0.4	0.0	100.0	721
Muslim	96.4	1.4	2.1	0.0	100.0	140
Traditional	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	2
Jehovah	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	34
Other	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1
No religion	98.8	0.6	0.0	0.6	100.0	164
Total 15–49	99.1	0.5	0.3	0.1	100.0	5,881
50–59	99.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	100.0	667
Total 15–59	99.1	0.5	0.3	0.0	100.0	6,548

¹ Includes all dried blood spot (DBS) specimens tested at the lab and for which there is a final result, i.e., positive, negative, or inconclusive

² Includes (1) other results of blood collection (e.g., technical problem in the field), (2) lost specimens, (3) noncorresponding bar codes, and (4) lab results such as blood not tested for technical reason or not enough blood to complete the algorithm

³ Includes all men who report they are circumcised

⁴ Includes men who report they are (1) medically circumcised but don't know whether they are traditionally circumcised, (2) traditionally circumcised but don't know whether they are medically circumcised, or (3) circumcised but don't know the type of circumcision

Table A.9 Coverage of HIV testing by sexual behaviour characteristics: Women

Percentage distribution of interviewed women aged 15–49 years who ever had sexual intercourse by HIV test status, according to sexual behaviour characteristics (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Sexual behaviour characteristic	HIV test status			Total	Number of women
	DBS tested ¹	Refused to provide blood	Absent at the time of blood collection		
Age at first sexual intercourse					
<16	99.8	0.2	0.0	100.0	414
16–17	99.8	0.1	0.1	100.0	940
18–19	99.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	1,411
20+	99.1	0.8	0.0	100.0	2,641
Missing	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	28
Number of lifetime partners					
1	99.4	0.5	0.0	100.0	3,194
2	99.1	0.7	0.1	100.0	1,335
3–4	99.3	0.7	0.0	100.0	684
5–9	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	155
10+	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	66
Multiple sexual partners in last 12 months					
0	99.0	0.8	0.2	100.0	958
1	99.4	0.6	0.0	100.0	4,323
2+	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	122
Don't know/missing	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	31
Nonmarital, noncohabiting partners in last 12 months ²					
0	99.4	0.6	0.0	100.0	4,627
1	99.1	0.7	0.1	100.0	692
2+	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	115
Condom use at last sexual intercourse in last 12 months					
Used condom	99.4	0.6	0.0	100.0	496
Did not use condom	99.4	0.5	0.0	100.0	3,980
No sexual intercourse in last 12 months	99.0	0.8	0.2	100.0	958
Condom use at last sexual intercourse with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner in last 12 months ²					
Used condom	99.2	0.8	0.0	100.0	382
Did not use condom	99.3	0.5	0.2	100.0	425
No sexual intercourse with any nonmarital, noncohabiting partners in last 12 months	99.4	0.6	0.0	100.0	4,627
Prior HIV testing					
Ever tested	99.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	5,151
Never tested	98.9	1.1	0.0	100.0	277
Missing	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	6
Total	99.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	5,434

¹ Includes all dried blood spot (DBS) specimens tested at the lab and for which there is a final result, i.e., positive, negative, or inconclusive

² A respondent is considered to have had concurrent partners if he or she had overlapping sexual partnerships with two or more people during the 12 months before the survey.



Table A.10 Coverage of HIV testing by sexual behaviour characteristics: Men

Percentage distribution of interviewed men aged 15–49 years who ever had sexual intercourse by HIV test status, according to sexual behaviour characteristics (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Sexual behaviour characteristic	HIV test status				Total	Number of men
	DBS tested ¹	Refused to provide blood	Absent at the time of blood collection	Other ²		
Age at first sexual intercourse						
<16	99.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	100.0	444
16–17	98.5	0.8	0.5	0.3	100.0	397
18–19	98.6	1.1	0.4	0.0	100.0	857
20+	99.1	0.5	0.3	0.1	100.0	2,573
Missing	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	34
Number of lifetime partners						
1	99.4	0.4	0.2	0.0	100.0	1,565
2	99.0	0.6	0.2	0.2	100.0	1,120
3–4	98.7	0.7	0.5	0.1	100.0	1,035
5–9	98.7	0.8	0.5	0.0	100.0	386
10+	97.9	1.0	1.0	0.0	100.0	193
Missing	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	6
Multiple sexual partners in last 12 months						
0	97.9	1.1	0.6	0.4	100.0	704
1	99.2	0.5	0.3	0.0	100.0	3,235
2+	99.0	0.6	0.3	0.0	100.0	309
Don't know/missing	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	57
Nonmarital, noncohabiting partners in last 12 months ³						
0	99.1	0.6	0.3	0.1	100.0	3,438
1	98.7	0.7	0.6	0.0	100.0	709
2+	98.7	0.6	0.6	0.0	100.0	158
Condom use at last sexual intercourse in last 12 months						
Used condom	98.9	0.3	0.8	0.0	100.0	610
Did not use condom	99.3	0.5	0.2	0.0	100.0	2,991
No sexual intercourse in last 12 months	97.9	1.1	0.6	0.4	100.0	704
Condom use at last sexual intercourse with a nonmarital, noncohabiting partner in last 12 months ³						
Used condom	98.9	0.3	0.8	0.0	100.0	610
Did not use condom	98.4	1.6	0.0	0.0	100.0	257
No sexual intercourse with any nonmarital, noncohabiting partners in last 12 months	99.1	0.6	0.3	0.1	100.0	3,438
Prior HIV testing						
Ever tested	99.0	0.6	0.3	0.1	100.0	3,785
Never tested	99.0	0.6	0.2	0.2	100.0	520
Total 15–49	99.0	0.6	0.3	0.1	100.0	4,305
50–59	99.4	0.5	0.2	0.0	100.0	663
Total 15–59	99.1	0.6	0.3	0.1	100.0	4,968

¹ Includes all dried blood spot (DBS) specimens tested at the lab and for which there is a final result, i.e., positive, negative, or inconclusive

² Includes (1) other results of blood collection (e.g., technical problem in the field), (2) lost specimens, (3) noncorresponding bar codes, and (4) lab results such as blood not tested for technical reason or not enough blood to complete the algorithm

³ A respondent is considered to have had concurrent partners if he or she had overlapping sexual partnerships with two or more people during the 12 months before the survey. (Respondents with concurrent partners include polygynous men who had overlapping sexual partnerships with two or more wives.)

ESTIMATES OF SAMPLING ERRORS

The estimates from a sample survey are affected by two types of errors: nonsampling errors and sampling errors. Nonsampling errors are the results of mistakes made in implementing data collection and data processing, such as failure to locate and interview the correct household, misunderstanding of the questions on the part of either the interviewer or the respondent, and data entry errors. Although numerous efforts were made during the implementation of the 2025 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey (2025 RDHS) to minimize this type of error, nonsampling errors are impossible to avoid and difficult to evaluate statistically.

Sampling errors, on the other hand, can be evaluated statistically. The sample of respondents selected in the 2025 RDHS is only one of many samples that could have been selected from the same population, using the same design and sample size. Each of these samples would yield results that differ somewhat from the results of the actual sample selected. Sampling errors are a measure of the variability among all possible samples. Although the degree of variability is not known exactly, it can be estimated from the survey results.

Sampling error is usually measured in terms of the *standard error* for a particular statistic (mean, percentage, etc.), which is the square root of the variance. The standard error can be used to calculate confidence intervals within which the true value for the population can reasonably be assumed to fall. For example, for any given statistic calculated from a sample survey, the value of that statistic will fall within a range of plus and minus two times the standard error of that statistic in 95% of all possible samples of identical size and design.

If the sample of respondents had been selected by simple random sampling, it would have been possible to use straightforward formulas for calculating sampling errors. However, the 2025 RDHS sample was the result of a multistage stratified cluster design, and, consequently, it was necessary to use more complex formulas. Sampling errors are computed using SAS programs developed by ICF. These programs use the Taylor linearization method to estimate variances for survey estimates that are means, medians, proportions, or ratios. The Jackknife repeated replication method is used for variance estimation of more complex statistics such as fertility rates and mortality rates.

The Taylor linearization method treats any linear statistic such as a percentage or mean as a ratio estimate, $r = y/x$, where y represents the total weighted sample value for variable y and x represents the total number of weighted cases in the group or subgroup under consideration. The variance of r is computed using the formula given below, with the standard error being the square root of the variance:

$$SE^2(r) = var(r) = \frac{1-f}{x^2} \sum_{h=1}^H \left[\frac{m_h}{m_h - 1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m_h} z_{hi}^2 - \frac{z_h^2}{m_h} \right) \right]$$

in which

$$z_{hi} = y_{hi} - rx_{hi} \text{ and } z_h = y_h - rx_h$$

where h represents the stratum, which varies from 1 to H ;
 m_h is the total number of clusters selected in the h^{th} stratum;
 y_{hi} is the sum of the weighted values of variable y in the i^{th} cluster in the h^{th} stratum;
 x_{hi} is the sum of the weighted number of cases in the i^{th} cluster in the h^{th} stratum; and
 f is the overall sampling fraction, which is so small that it is ignored.

The Jackknife repeated replication method derives estimates of complex rates from each of several replications of the parent sample and calculates standard errors for these estimates using simple formulas. Each replication

considers all but one cluster in the calculation of the estimates. Pseudo-independent replications are thus created. In the 2025 RDHS, there were 560 non-empty clusters. Hence, 560 replications were created. The variance of a rate r is calculated as follows:

$$SE^2(r) = var(r) = \frac{1}{k(k-1)} \sum_{i=1}^k (r_i - r)^2$$

in which

$$r_i = kr - (k-1)r_{(i)}$$

where r is the estimate computed from the full sample of 560 clusters,
 $r_{(i)}$ is the estimate computed from the reduced sample of 559 clusters (i^{th} cluster excluded), and
 k is the total number of clusters.

In addition to the standard error, the design effect (DEFT) for each estimate is also calculated. The design effect is defined as the ratio between the standard error using the given sample design and the standard error that would result if a simple random sample had been used. A DEFT value of 1.0 indicates that the sample design is as efficient as a simple random sample, while a value greater than 1.0 indicates the increase in the sampling error due to the use of a more complex and less statistically efficient design. Relative standard errors and confidence limits for the estimates are also calculated.

Sampling errors for the 2025 RDHS are calculated for selected variables considered to be of primary interest. The results are presented in this appendix for the country as a whole, for urban and rural areas separately, and for each of the five provinces. For each variable, the type of statistic (mean, proportion, or rate) and the base population are given in **Table B.1**. **Tables B.2** through **B.11** present the value of the statistic (R), its standard error (SE), the number of unweighted (N) and weighted (WN) cases, the design effect (DEFT), the relative standard error (SE/R), and the 95% confidence limits ($R \pm 2SE$) for each variable. The sampling errors for mortality rates are presented for the 5-year period preceding the survey for the national sample and the urban and rural samples and for the 10-year period preceding the survey at other domain levels. The DEFT is considered undefined when the standard error considering a simple random sample is zero (when the estimate is close to 0 or 1).

The confidence interval (e.g., as calculated for mean number of children ever born to women age 15–49) can be interpreted as follows: the overall average for all interviewed women aged 15–49 years from the national sample is 2.035 and its standard error is 0.020. Therefore, to obtain the 95% confidence limits, one adds and subtracts twice the standard error to the sample estimate, that is, $2.035 \pm 2 \times 0.020$. There is a high probability (95%) that the true mean number of children ever born to women age 15–49 is between 1.995 and 2.075.

For the total sample, the value of the DEFT, averaged over all variables for the women's survey, is 1.193. This means that, due to multistage clustering of the sample, the average standard error is increased by a factor of 1.193 over that in an equivalent simple random sample of the same size.

Table B.1 List of selected variables for sampling errors, Rwanda DHS 2025

Variable	Estimate	Base population
HOUSEHOLDS AND POPULATION		
Electricity primary source of lighting	Proportion	De jure household population
Primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	Proportion	De jure household population
Births registered with civil authority	Proportion	De jure household population under 5
Water available when needed	Proportion	De jure household population
Improved sanitation facility	Proportion	De jure household population
At least basic sanitation service	Proportion	De jure household population
Using open defecation	Proportion	De jure household population
Using a handwashing facility with soap and water	Proportion	De jure household population for whom handwashing place was observed or with no on-site place for handwashing
WOMEN		
Urban residence	Proportion	Women 15–49
No education	Proportion	Women 15–49
Secondary education or higher	Proportion	Women 15–49
Literacy	Proportion	Women 15–49
Use of the internet in last 12 months	Proportion	Women 15–49
Current tobacco use	Proportion	Women 15–49
Currently married/in union	Proportion	Women 15–49
Married before age 15	Proportion	Women 20–49
Married before age 18	Proportion	Women 20–49
Had sexual intercourse before age 18	Proportion	Women 20–49
Age-specific fertility rate 15–19 (3 years)	Rate	Woman-years of exposure to childbearing at age 15–19 in the 3 years preceding the survey
Total fertility rate (3 years)	Rate	Woman-years of exposure to childbearing
Currently pregnant	Proportion	Women 15–49
Mean number of children ever born to women age 40–49	Mean	Women 40–49
Mean number of children ever born to women age 15–49	Mean	Women 15–49
Mean number of living children among women age 15–49	Mean	Women 15–49
Median birth interval	Median	Non-first births in the 5 years preceding the survey
First birth before age 18	Proportion	Women 20–49
Want to delay next birth at least 2 years	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Want no more children	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Ideal number of children	Mean	Women 15–49 with numeric responses
Total wanted fertility rate (3 years)	Rate	Woman-years of exposure to childbearing
Currently using any contraceptive method	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Currently using any modern method	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Currently using pill	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Currently using injectables	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Currently using implants	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Currently using male condom	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Currently using any traditional method	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
12-month discontinuation rate due to method failure	Rate	Women 15–49
12-month discontinuation rate due to any reason	Rate	Women 15–49
12-month discontinuation rate due to switching to another method	Rate	Women 15–49
Unmet need for spacing	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Unmet need for limiting	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Unmet need total	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Demand satisfied by modern methods (married women)	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Demand satisfied by modern methods (all women)	Proportion	Women 15–49
Participation in decision making about family planning	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Not exposed to any of the eight media sources	Proportion	Women 15–49
Neonatal mortality rate ¹	Rate	Children exposed to the risk of mortality
Postneonatal mortality rate ¹	Rate	Children exposed to the risk of mortality
Infant mortality rate ¹	Rate	Children exposed to the risk of mortality
Child mortality rate ¹	Rate	Children exposed to the risk of mortality
Under-5 mortality rate ¹	Rate	Children exposed to the risk of mortality
Perinatal mortality rate	Rate	Pregnancies of 28 or more weeks' duration to women 15–49 in the 5 years preceding the survey
Stillbirth rate	Rate	Pregnancies of 28 or more weeks' duration to women 15–49 in the 5 years preceding the survey
Early neonatal mortality rate	Rate	Pregnancies of 28 or more weeks' duration to women 15–49 in the 5 years preceding the survey
In any avoidable high-risk category	Proportion	Children born in the 5 years preceding the survey to women 15–49
Received ANC from a skilled provider	Proportion	Women 15–49 who had a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey
4+ ANC visits	Proportion	Women 15–49 who had a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey
8+ ANC visits	Proportion	Women 15–49 who had a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey
Took any iron-containing supplements	Proportion	Women 15–49 who had a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	Proportion	Women 15–49 with a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey
Delivered in a health facility (live births)	Proportion	Live births in the 2 years preceding the survey
Delivered by C-section (live births)	Proportion	Live births in the 2 years preceding the survey
Delivered by a skilled provider (live births)	Proportion	Live births in the 2 years preceding the survey
Women with postnatal check during first 2 days	Proportion	Women 15–49 with a live birth in the 2 years preceding the survey
Newborns with postnatal check during first 2 days	Proportion	Most recent live births in the 2 years preceding the survey
Any problem accessing health care	Proportion	Women 15–49
Ever had a vaccination card	Proportion	Children 12–23 months
Received BCG vaccination	Proportion	Children 12–23 months

Continued...

Table B.1—Continued

Variable	Estimate	Base population
Received DPT-HepB-Hib vaccination (3 doses)	Proportion	Children 12–23 months
Received pneumococcal vaccination (3 doses)	Proportion	Children 12–23 months
Received measles and rubella 1 vaccination	Proportion	Children 12–23 months
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (12–23 months)	Proportion	Children 12–23 months
Received measles and rubella 2 vaccination	Proportion	Children 24–35 months
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (24–35 months)	Proportion	Children 24–35 months
Received HPV vaccination (2 doses)	Proportion	Women age 15–17
Sought treatment for diarrhoea	Proportion	Children under 5 with diarrhoea in last 2 weeks
Treated with ORS	Proportion	Children under 5 with diarrhoea in last 2 weeks
Height-for-age (–3 SD)	Proportion	Children under 5 who were measured
Height-for-age (–2 SD)	Proportion	Children under 5 who were measured
Weight-for-height (–2 SD)	Proportion	Children under 5 who were measured
Weight-for-height (+2 SD)	Proportion	Children under 5 who were measured
Weight-for-age (–2 SD)	Proportion	Children under 5 who were measured
Exclusive breastfeeding	Proportion	Youngest children 0–5 months living with their mother
Minimum dietary diversity (children 6–23 months)	Proportion	Youngest children 6–23 months living with their mother
Body mass index (BMI) <18.5	Proportion	Women 20–49 who were measured
Body mass index (BMI) ≥25	Proportion	Women 20–49 who were measured
Body mass index-for-age (–2 SD)	Proportion	Adolescent women 15–19 who were measured
Body mass index-for-age (+1 SD)	Proportion	Adolescent women 15–19 who were measured
Minimum dietary diversity (women 15–49)	Proportion	Women 15–49
Child had fever in last 2 weeks	Proportion	Child under 5
Child had blood taken from finger/heel	Proportion	Child under 5 who had a fever in the last 2 weeks
Child took ACT	Proportion	Child under 5 with a fever in the last 2 weeks who received any antimalarial medications
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	Proportion	Women 15–49 who have heard of HIV/AIDS
Condom use at last sex	Proportion	Women 15–49 with nonmarital, noncohabiting partner in last 12 months
Ever tested for HIV and received results of last test	Proportion	Women 15–49
Stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in community settings	Proportion	Women 15–49 who self-report a positive HIV test result
HIV prevalence among women 15–49	Proportion	Interviewed women age 15–49 with dried blood spot (DBS) specimen tested at the lab
HIV prevalence among pregnant women 15–49	Proportion	Interviewed pregnant women 15–49 with DBS tested at the lab
HIV prevalence among young women 15–24	Proportion	Interviewed women 15–24 with DBS tested at the lab
Mobile phone ownership	Proportion	Women 15–49
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	Proportion	Women 15–49
Participate in decision making (all three decisions)	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	Proportion	Women 15–49
Make own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive care	Proportion	Currently married women 15–49
Experienced physical violence since age 15 by any perpetrator	Proportion	Women 15–49
Experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator ever	Proportion	Women 15–49
Experienced sexual violence by any non-intimate partner	Proportion	Women 15–49
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner ever	Proportion	Women 15–49 who have ever had a husband or an intimate partner
Experienced physical or sexual violence by the current or most recent husband or intimate partner ever	Proportion	Women 15–49 who have ever had a husband or an intimate partner
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner in the last 12 months	Proportion	Women 15–49 who have ever had a husband or an intimate partner
MEN		
Urban residence	Proportion	Men 15–49
No education	Proportion	Men 15–49
Secondary education or higher	Proportion	Men 15–49
Literacy	Proportion	Men 15–49
Use of the internet in last 12 months	Proportion	Men 15–49
Current tobacco use	Proportion	Men 15–49
Currently married/in union	Proportion	Men 15–49
Had sexual intercourse before age 18	Proportion	Men 20–49
Want to delay next birth at least 2 years	Proportion	Currently married men 15–49
Want no more children	Proportion	Currently married men 15–49
Ideal number of children	Mean	Men 15–49 with numeric responses
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	Proportion	Men 15–49 who have heard of HIV/AIDS
Condom use at last sex	Proportion	Men 15–49 with nonmarital, noncohabiting partner in last 12 months
Ever tested for HIV and received results of last test	Proportion	Men 15–49
Stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in community settings	Proportion	Men 15–49 who self-report a positive HIV test result
Male circumcision	Proportion	Men 15–49
HIV prevalence among men 15–49	Proportion	Interviewed men 15–49 with dried blood spot (DBS) specimen tested at the lab
HIV prevalence among men 15–59	Proportion	Interviewed men 15–59 with DBS tested at the lab
HIV prevalence among young men 15–24	Proportion	Interviewed men 15–24 with DBS tested at the lab
Mobile phone ownership	Proportion	Men 15–49
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	Proportion	Men 15–49
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	Proportion	Men 15–49

Continued...

Table B.1—Continued

Variable	Estimate	Base population
WOMEN AND MEN		
HIV prevalence among respondents 15–49	Proportion	Interviewed women and men 15–49 with dried blood spot (DBS) specimen tested at the lab
HIV prevalence among respondents 15–24	Proportion	Interviewed women and men 15–24 with DBS tested at the lab

¹ Mortality rates are calculated for the 5 years before the survey for the national, urban, and rural samples and for the 10 years before the survey for provincial samples.

Table B.2 Sampling errors: Total sample, Rwanda DHS 2025

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
HOUSEHOLDS AND POPULATION								
Electricity primary source of lighting	0.539	0.011	56,165	56,237	2.465	0.021	0.517	0.562
Primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	0.050	0.003	56,165	56,237	1.802	0.067	0.044	0.057
Births registered with civil authority	0.951	0.003	7,283	7,323	1.200	0.003	0.945	0.958
Water available when needed	0.678	0.008	56,165	56,237	1.738	0.011	0.663	0.694
Improved sanitation facility	0.864	0.005	56,165	56,237	1.577	0.006	0.854	0.874
At least basic sanitation service	0.713	0.007	56,165	56,237	1.621	0.009	0.699	0.726
Using open defecation	0.017	0.001	56,165	56,237	1.192	0.078	0.015	0.020
Using a handwashing facility with soap and water	0.214	0.006	52,590	52,721	1.537	0.029	0.202	0.226
WOMEN								
Urban residence	0.320	0.005	14,283	14,283	1.390	0.017	0.309	0.331
No education	0.065	0.003	14,283	14,283	1.320	0.042	0.060	0.070
Secondary education or higher	0.379	0.006	14,283	14,283	1.508	0.016	0.367	0.391
Literacy	0.877	0.004	14,283	14,283	1.424	0.004	0.869	0.885
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.255	0.007	14,283	14,283	1.863	0.027	0.241	0.269
Current tobacco use	0.010	0.001	14,283	14,283	1.065	0.089	0.008	0.012
Currently married/in union	0.519	0.005	14,283	14,283	1.210	0.010	0.509	0.529
Married before age 15	0.006	0.001	11,364	11,386	1.122	0.136	0.004	0.008
Married before age 18	0.077	0.003	11,364	11,386	1.160	0.038	0.071	0.082
Had sexual intercourse before age 18	0.200	0.005	11,364	11,386	1.221	0.023	0.191	0.209
Age-specific fertility rate 15–19 (3 years)	39.255	2.312	8,532	8,489	1.101	0.059	34.630	43.879
Total fertility rate (3 years)	3.676	0.063	40,120	40,150	1.243	0.017	3.551	3.802
Currently pregnant	0.051	0.002	14,283	14,283	1.167	0.042	0.047	0.055
Mean number of children ever born to women age 40–49	4.565	0.043	3,087	3,074	1.120	0.009	4.479	4.650
Mean number of children ever born to women age 15–49	2.035	0.020	14,283	14,283	1.122	0.010	1.995	2.075
Mean number of living children among women age 15–49	1.910	0.018	14,283	14,283	1.102	0.010	1.874	1.947
Median birth interval	48.820	0.465	4,893	4,939	1.266	0.010	47.891	49.750
First birth before age 18	0.049	0.002	11,364	11,386	1.103	0.045	0.045	0.054
Want to delay next birth at least 2 years	0.368	0.006	7,366	7,410	1.109	0.017	0.356	0.381
Want no more children	0.465	0.006	7,366	7,410	1.061	0.013	0.453	0.477
Ideal number of children	3.206	0.014	14,186	14,180	1.328	0.004	3.178	3.234
Total wanted fertility rate (3 years)	2.795	0.051	40,120	40,150	1.146	0.018	2.692	2.897
Currently using any contraceptive method	0.693	0.006	7,366	7,410	1.127	0.009	0.681	0.705
Currently using any modern method	0.642	0.006	7,366	7,410	1.111	0.010	0.630	0.654
Currently using pill	0.066	0.003	7,366	7,410	1.136	0.050	0.059	0.072
Currently using injectables	0.143	0.005	7,366	7,410	1.181	0.034	0.134	0.153
Currently using implants	0.343	0.006	7,366	7,410	1.139	0.018	0.331	0.356
Currently using male condom	0.024	0.002	7,366	7,410	1.089	0.082	0.020	0.027
Currently using any traditional method	0.051	0.003	7,366	7,410	1.126	0.056	0.045	0.057
12-month discontinuation rate due to method failure	1.842	0.593	8,164	8,203	1.174	0.322	0.656	3.028
12-month discontinuation rate due to any reason	24.349	0.175	8,164	8,203	1.290	0.007	23.999	24.700
12-month discontinuation rate due to switching to another method	7.729	0.352	8,164	8,203	1.159	0.046	7.025	8.433
Unmet need for spacing	0.039	0.002	7,366	7,410	1.032	0.060	0.034	0.043
Unmet need for limiting	0.050	0.003	7,366	7,410	1.026	0.052	0.045	0.055
Unmet need total	0.089	0.003	7,366	7,410	1.042	0.039	0.082	0.096
Demand satisfied by modern methods (married women)	0.821	0.005	5,754	5,794	1.061	0.007	0.810	0.832
Demand satisfied by modern methods (all women)	0.813	0.005	7,211	7,246	1.079	0.006	0.803	0.823
Participation in decision making about family planning	0.943	0.003	7,366	7,410	1.257	0.004	0.936	0.950
Not exposed to any of the eight media sources	0.203	0.005	14,283	14,283	1.607	0.027	0.192	0.214
Neonatal mortality (last 0–4 years)	16.905	1.748	7,214	7,274	1.103	0.103	13.408	20.402
Postneonatal mortality (last 0–4 years)	10.424	1.265	7,217	7,280	1.044	0.121	7.894	12.954
Infant mortality (last 0–4 years)	27.329	2.250	7,222	7,283	1.111	0.082	22.829	31.828
Child mortality (last 0–4 years)	9.220	1.260	7,175	7,233	1.118	0.137	6.700	11.739
Under-5 mortality (last 0–4 years)	36.296	2.567	7,253	7,316	1.115	0.071	31.162	41.431
Stillbirth rate	11.162	1.523	7,283	7,346	1.201	0.136	8.116	14.208
Early neonatal mortality rate	12.703	1.553	7,214	7,271	1.100	0.122	9.598	15.808
Perinatal mortality rate	23.735	2.216	7,283	7,346	1.173	0.093	19.304	28.167

Continued...

Table B.2–Continued

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
In any avoidable high-risk category	0.409	0.007	7,214	7,271	1.168	0.018	0.394	0.423
Received ANC from a skilled provider	0.954	0.004	2,823	2,854	1.053	0.004	0.946	0.962
4+ ANC visits	0.775	0.010	2,823	2,854	1.226	0.012	0.756	0.794
8+ ANC visits	0.195	0.008	2,823	2,854	1.112	0.042	0.179	0.212
Took any iron-containing supplements	0.917	0.006	2,823	2,854	1.179	0.007	0.905	0.929
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.775	0.009	2,823	2,854	1.157	0.012	0.757	0.793
Delivered in a health facility (live births)	0.981	0.003	2,908	2,939	1.197	0.003	0.975	0.987
Delivered by a skilled provider (live births)	0.981	0.003	2,908	2,939	1.177	0.003	0.976	0.987
Delivered by C-section (live births)	0.235	0.009	2,908	2,939	1.103	0.038	0.218	0.253
Women with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.681	0.010	2,823	2,854	1.184	0.015	0.661	0.702
Newborns with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.717	0.010	2,823	2,854	1.141	0.014	0.698	0.736
Any problem accessing health care	0.478	0.008	14,283	14,283	1.929	0.017	0.462	0.494
Ever had a vaccination card	0.903	0.012	1,376	1,404	1.515	0.013	0.879	0.927
Received BCG vaccination	0.981	0.004	1,376	1,404	1.099	0.004	0.973	0.989
Received DPT–HepB–Hib vaccination (3 doses)	0.975	0.005	1,376	1,404	1.204	0.005	0.965	0.985
Received pneumococcal vaccination (3 doses)	0.966	0.006	1,376	1,404	1.248	0.006	0.954	0.978
Received measles vaccination	0.967	0.006	1,376	1,404	1.260	0.006	0.955	0.979
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (12–23 months)	0.815	0.013	1,376	1,404	1.238	0.016	0.789	0.841
Received measles/measles-rubella 2 vaccination (24–35 months)	0.926	0.009	1,372	1,377	1.248	0.010	0.908	0.944
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (24–35 months)	0.807	0.013	1,372	1,377	1.177	0.016	0.781	0.832
Received HPV vaccination (2 doses) women 15–17	0.693	0.013	1,765	1,749	1.154	0.018	0.668	0.718
Sought treatment for diarrhoea	0.645	0.018	998	1,029	1.153	0.027	0.610	0.680
Treated with ORS	0.359	0.018	998	1,029	1.194	0.051	0.323	0.396
Height-for-age (–3 SD)	0.064	0.003	7,261	7,293	1.122	0.053	0.057	0.070
Height-for-age (–2 SD)	0.268	0.007	7,261	7,293	1.234	0.025	0.254	0.281
Weight-for-height (–2 SD)	0.009	0.001	7,261	7,291	1.033	0.130	0.006	0.011
Weight-for-height (+2 SD)	0.051	0.003	7,261	7,291	1.067	0.055	0.045	0.056
Weight-for-age (–2 SD)	0.061	0.003	7,270	7,299	1.116	0.053	0.054	0.067
Exclusive breastfeeding	0.818	0.016	708	709	1.110	0.020	0.785	0.850
Minimum dietary diversity (children 6–23 months)	0.435	0.012	2,039	2,066	1.094	0.028	0.411	0.459
Body mass index (BMI) <18.5	0.040	0.003	5,220	5,237	1.108	0.075	0.034	0.046
Body mass index (BMI) ≥25	0.349	0.008	5,220	5,237	1.205	0.023	0.333	0.365
Body mass index-for-age (–2 SD)	0.004	0.002	1,439	1,439	1.160	0.464	0.000	0.008
Body mass index-for-age (+1 SD)	0.211	0.011	1,439	1,439	1.064	0.054	0.188	0.234
Minimum dietary diversity (15–49)	0.321	0.006	14,283	14,283	1.479	0.018	0.309	0.333
Child had fever in last 2 weeks	0.157	0.005	7,000	7,056	1.209	0.034	0.146	0.168
Child had blood taken from finger/heel	0.442	0.018	1,085	1,110	1.166	0.040	0.407	0.478
Child took ACT	0.965	0.024	58	65	1.056	0.025	0.917	1.000
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.128	0.004	14,231	14,235	1.364	0.030	0.120	0.136
Condom use at last sex	0.448	0.014	1,560	1,568	1.086	0.031	0.421	0.476
Ever tested for HIV and received the results of the last test	0.769	0.004	14,283	14,283	1.079	0.005	0.762	0.777
Stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in community settings	0.604	0.032	270	257	1.075	0.053	0.540	0.668
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.028	0.002	7,127	7,063	1.033	0.072	0.024	0.032
HIV prevalence (pregnant women 15–49)	0.018	0.007	367	357	1.053	0.405	0.003	0.033
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.007	0.002	2,712	2,694	1.093	0.253	0.003	0.010
Mobile phone ownership	0.637	0.006	14,283	14,283	1.383	0.009	0.626	0.648
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.631	0.006	14,283	14,283	1.482	0.009	0.619	0.643
Participate in decision making (all three decisions)	0.612	0.007	7,366	7,410	1.275	0.012	0.598	0.627
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.296	0.005	14,283	14,283	1.364	0.018	0.285	0.306
Make own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive care	0.532	0.007	7,366	7,410	1.214	0.013	0.518	0.546
Experienced physical violence since age 15 by any perpetrator	0.327	0.008	5,265	5,267	1.265	0.025	0.311	0.343
Experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator ever	0.189	0.007	5,265	5,267	1.228	0.035	0.175	0.202
Experienced sexual violence by any non-intimate partner	0.109	0.005	5,265	5,267	1.204	0.047	0.099	0.120
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner ever	0.409	0.009	4,679	4,490	1.204	0.021	0.391	0.426
Experienced physical or sexual violence by the current or most recent husband or intimate partner ever	0.284	0.007	4,679	4,490	1.132	0.026	0.269	0.299
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner in the last 12 months	0.295	0.008	4,679	4,490	1.169	0.026	0.280	0.311
MEN								
Urban residence	0.321	0.007	5,881	5,891	1.208	0.023	0.306	0.335
No education	0.059	0.004	5,881	5,891	1.209	0.063	0.052	0.066
Secondary education or higher	0.352	0.009	5,881	5,891	1.435	0.025	0.334	0.370
Literacy	0.884	0.005	5,881	5,891	1.207	0.006	0.874	0.894
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.350	0.008	5,881	5,891	1.344	0.024	0.333	0.367
Current tobacco use	0.057	0.003	5,881	5,891	1.118	0.059	0.050	0.064
Currently married/in union	0.506	0.008	5,881	5,891	1.215	0.016	0.491	0.522
Had sexual intercourse before age 18	0.136	0.005	4,528	4,554	1.057	0.040	0.125	0.146
Want to delay next birth at least 2 years	0.425	0.010	2,963	2,983	1.126	0.024	0.405	0.445
Want no more children	0.433	0.010	2,963	2,983	1.068	0.022	0.414	0.453
Ideal number of children	3.150	0.020	5,868	5,874	1.251	0.006	3.110	3.191
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.106	0.005	5,854	5,863	1.178	0.045	0.096	0.115

Continued...

Table B.2–Continued

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
Condom use at last sex	0.688	0.018	867	867	1.119	0.026	0.653	0.724
Ever tested for HIV and received results of last test	0.710	0.007	5,881	5,891	1.158	0.010	0.697	0.724
Stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in community settings	0.438	0.059	50	49	0.834	0.135	0.320	0.556
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.015	0.002	5,829	5,896	1.193	0.126	0.011	0.019
HIV prevalence (15–59)	0.018	0.002	6,492	6,556	1.170	0.107	0.014	0.022
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.009	0.002	2,351	2,364	1.043	0.225	0.005	0.013
Male circumcision	0.719	0.007	5,881	5,891	1.250	0.010	0.704	0.733
Mobile phone ownership	0.733	0.007	5,881	5,891	1.157	0.009	0.719	0.746
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.740	0.007	5,881	5,891	1.147	0.009	0.727	0.753
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.146	0.006	5,881	5,891	1.238	0.039	0.135	0.157
WOMEN AND MEN								
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.022	0.002	12,956	12,959	1.195	0.070	0.019	0.025
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.008	0.001	5,063	5,058	1.040	0.164	0.005	0.010

Table B.3 Sampling errors: Urban sample, Rwanda DHS 2025

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
HOUSEHOLDS AND POPULATION								
Electricity primary source of lighting	0.866	0.013	18,999	15,997	2.463	0.015	0.839	0.893
Primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	0.146	0.012	18,999	15,997	2.297	0.083	0.122	0.170
Births registered with civil authority	0.958	0.005	2,521	2,141	1.173	0.005	0.948	0.968
Water available when needed	0.657	0.015	18,999	15,997	1.973	0.023	0.627	0.687
Improved sanitation facility	0.936	0.007	18,999	15,997	1.651	0.007	0.923	0.949
At least basic sanitation service	0.601	0.015	18,999	15,997	2.015	0.026	0.570	0.632
Using open defecation	0.008	0.001	18,999	15,997	0.964	0.165	0.005	0.010
Using a handwashing facility with soap and water	0.267	0.014	17,923	15,180	1.880	0.052	0.239	0.294
WOMEN								
No education	0.036	0.003	5,295	4,570	1.363	0.098	0.029	0.042
Secondary education or higher	0.544	0.012	5,295	4,570	1.826	0.023	0.519	0.569
Literacy	0.937	0.005	5,295	4,570	1.415	0.005	0.927	0.946
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.490	0.016	5,295	4,570	2.264	0.032	0.459	0.521
Current tobacco use	0.006	0.001	5,295	4,570	1.134	0.200	0.004	0.008
Age-specific fertility rate 15–19 (3 years)	29.751	3.538	3,222	2,745	1.167	0.119	22.676	36.827
Total fertility rate (3 years)	3.357	0.114	15,031	13,024	1.488	0.034	3.130	3.585
Currently pregnant	0.046	0.004	5,295	4,570	1.351	0.085	0.038	0.053
Mean number of children ever born to women age 40–49	4.069	0.084	933	748	1.226	0.021	3.901	4.237
Median birth interval	46.606	1.081	1,714	1,479	1.154	0.023	44.444	48.768
Want no more children	0.418	0.012	2,525	2,166	1.210	0.028	0.394	0.441
Ideal number of children	3.201	0.026	5,257	4,531	1.498	0.008	3.148	3.254
Total wanted fertility rate (3 years)	2.583	0.089	15,031	13,024	1.293	0.034	2.405	2.760
Currently using any contraceptive method	0.651	0.012	2,525	2,166	1.308	0.019	0.626	0.676
Currently using any modern method	0.609	0.012	2,525	2,166	1.257	0.020	0.585	0.633
Currently using pill	0.074	0.006	2,525	2,166	1.239	0.087	0.061	0.087
Currently using injectables	0.152	0.010	2,525	2,166	1.372	0.064	0.133	0.172
Currently using implants	0.265	0.010	2,525	2,166	1.153	0.038	0.245	0.285
Currently using male condom	0.023	0.004	2,525	2,166	1.263	0.163	0.016	0.031
Currently using any traditional method	0.042	0.006	2,525	2,166	1.414	0.134	0.031	0.053
Unmet need for spacing	0.049	0.004	2,525	2,166	1.025	0.090	0.040	0.058
Unmet need for limiting	0.047	0.005	2,525	2,166	1.230	0.110	0.037	0.058
Unmet need total	0.097	0.007	2,525	2,166	1.129	0.069	0.083	0.110
Demand satisfied by modern methods (married women)	0.815	0.010	1,903	1,619	1.131	0.012	0.794	0.835
Demand satisfied by modern methods (all women)	0.804	0.009	2,433	2,056	1.122	0.011	0.786	0.822
Participation in decision making about family planning	0.938	0.008	2,525	2,166	1.628	0.008	0.923	0.954
Not exposed to any of the eight media sources	0.209	0.012	5,295	4,570	2.206	0.059	0.184	0.234
Neonatal mortality (last 0–4 years)	17.177	3.465	2,551	2,206	1.227	0.202	10.246	24.107
Postneonatal mortality (last 0–4 years)	8.198	1.953	2,536	2,193	1.120	0.238	4.292	12.105
Infant mortality (last 0–4 years)	25.375	4.350	2,552	2,206	1.319	0.171	16.674	34.076
Child mortality (last 0–4 years)	6.854	2.083	2,510	2,176	1.261	0.304	2.688	11.020
Under-5 mortality (last 0–4 years)	32.055	4.758	2,561	2,216	1.296	0.148	22.539	41.571
Stillbirth rate	10.377	2.902	2,573	2,225	1.330	0.280	4.574	16.180
Early neonatal mortality rate	14.167	3.236	2,554	2,206	1.217	0.228	7.695	20.639
Perinatal mortality rate	24.422	4.512	2,573	2,225	1.328	0.185	15.398	33.446
Received ANC from a skilled provider	0.946	0.008	989	850	1.153	0.009	0.930	0.963

Continued...

Table B.3–Continued

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
4+ ANC visits	0.726	0.020	989	850	1.421	0.028	0.685	0.766
8+ ANC visits	0.199	0.016	989	850	1.234	0.079	0.167	0.230
Took any iron-containing supplements	0.917	0.010	989	850	1.192	0.011	0.896	0.938
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.797	0.014	989	850	1.056	0.017	0.770	0.824
Delivered in a health facility (live births)	0.986	0.004	1,021	877	1.146	0.004	0.978	0.994
Delivered by a skilled provider (live births)	0.986	0.004	1,021	877	1.172	0.004	0.978	0.995
Delivered by C-section (live births)	0.277	0.017	1,021	877	1.153	0.060	0.244	0.310
Women with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.716	0.020	989	850	1.368	0.027	0.677	0.756
Newborns with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.746	0.018	989	850	1.282	0.024	0.711	0.782
Any problem accessing health care	0.336	0.015	5,295	4,570	2.301	0.044	0.306	0.366
Ever had a vaccination card	0.875	0.019	472	414	1.271	0.022	0.837	0.914
Received BCG vaccination	0.979	0.008	472	414	1.216	0.008	0.964	0.995
Received DPT–HepB–Hib vaccination (3 doses)	0.970	0.010	472	414	1.262	0.010	0.950	0.989
Received pneumococcal vaccination (3 doses)	0.963	0.010	472	414	1.187	0.011	0.942	0.983
Received measles vaccination	0.952	0.015	472	414	1.507	0.015	0.923	0.982
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (12–23 months)	0.850	0.020	472	414	1.250	0.024	0.809	0.891
Received measles/measles-rubella 2 vaccination (24–35 months)	0.925	0.013	505	438	1.133	0.014	0.899	0.952
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (24–35 months)	0.839	0.019	505	438	1.174	0.023	0.801	0.878
Received HPV vaccination (2 doses) women 15–17	0.682	0.022	587	477	1.158	0.033	0.637	0.726
Sought treatment for diarrhoea	0.652	0.038	310	267	1.377	0.059	0.575	0.728
Treated with ORS	0.319	0.032	310	267	1.189	0.101	0.254	0.383
Height-for-age (–3 SD)	0.033	0.004	2,507	2,120	1.016	0.115	0.025	0.040
Height-for-age (–2 SD)	0.186	0.011	2,507	2,120	1.310	0.057	0.164	0.207
Weight-for-height (–2 SD)	0.013	0.003	2,509	2,120	1.079	0.192	0.008	0.018
Weight-for-height (+2 SD)	0.053	0.005	2,509	2,120	1.114	0.095	0.043	0.063
Weight-for-age (–2 SD)	0.050	0.005	2,513	2,123	1.214	0.110	0.039	0.061
Exclusive breastfeeding	0.804	0.030	239	198	1.156	0.037	0.745	0.864
Minimum dietary diversity (children 6–23 months)	0.504	0.025	716	618	1.311	0.049	0.455	0.553
Body mass index (BMI) <18.5	0.034	0.005	1,954	1,714	1.141	0.137	0.025	0.044
Body mass index (BMI) ≥25	0.495	0.015	1,954	1,714	1.309	0.030	0.465	0.524
Body mass index-for-age (–2 SD)	0.004	0.004	520	445	1.499	1.004	0.000	0.013
Body mass index-for-age (+1 SD)	0.260	0.022	520	445	1.159	0.086	0.216	0.305
Minimum dietary diversity (15–49)	0.416	0.012	5,295	4,570	1.749	0.028	0.392	0.440
Child had fever in last 2 weeks	0.121	0.008	2,488	2,149	1.141	0.063	0.106	0.136
Child had blood taken from finger/heel	0.457	0.034	317	260	1.168	0.075	0.388	0.525
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.097	0.006	5,277	4,558	1.355	0.057	0.086	0.108
Condom use at last sex	0.487	0.021	716	651	1.103	0.042	0.445	0.528
Ever tested for HIV and received the results of the last test	0.784	0.007	5,295	4,570	1.235	0.009	0.770	0.798
Stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in community settings	0.557	0.059	131	107	1.340	0.105	0.440	0.674
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.040	0.004	2,636	2,290	1.068	0.102	0.032	0.048
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.011	0.004	1,027	898	1.105	0.333	0.004	0.018
Mobile phone ownership	0.806	0.009	5,295	4,570	1.636	0.011	0.788	0.824
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.798	0.009	5,295	4,570	1.605	0.011	0.781	0.816
Participate in decision making (all three decisions)	0.663	0.014	2,525	2,166	1.481	0.021	0.635	0.691
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.210	0.008	5,295	4,570	1.480	0.039	0.194	0.227
Make own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive care	0.547	0.014	2,525	2,166	1.403	0.025	0.519	0.575
Experienced physical violence since age 15 by any perpetrator	0.288	0.017	1,836	1,661	1.620	0.060	0.254	0.322
Experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator ever	0.200	0.013	1,836	1,661	1.358	0.064	0.174	0.225
Experienced sexual violence by any non-intimate partner	0.122	0.010	1,836	1,661	1.320	0.083	0.102	0.142
Experienced physical or sexual violence by the current or most recent husband or intimate partner ever	0.235	0.014	1,605	1,363	1.353	0.061	0.206	0.263
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner in the last 12 months	0.247	0.013	1,605	1,363	1.241	0.054	0.220	0.274
MEN								
No education	0.036	0.005	2,128	1,889	1.315	0.147	0.026	0.047
Secondary education or higher	0.532	0.020	2,128	1,889	1.890	0.038	0.491	0.573
Literacy	0.947	0.007	2,128	1,889	1.369	0.007	0.934	0.960
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.587	0.017	2,128	1,889	1.622	0.030	0.552	0.621
Current tobacco use	0.062	0.006	2,128	1,889	1.201	0.102	0.049	0.074
Want no more children	0.374	0.018	1,020	910	1.194	0.048	0.338	0.411
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.072	0.007	2,122	1,884	1.232	0.096	0.058	0.086
Condom use at last sex	0.696	0.030	393	364	1.287	0.043	0.636	0.756
Ever tested for HIV and received results of last test	0.772	0.010	2,128	1,889	1.123	0.013	0.751	0.792
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.025	0.005	2,088	1,891	1.346	0.186	0.015	0.034
HIV prevalence (15–59)	0.028	0.005	2,280	2,045	1.312	0.161	0.019	0.038
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.017	0.005	764	663	1.157	0.317	0.006	0.028
Male circumcision	0.818	0.010	2,128	1,889	1.251	0.013	0.797	0.839

Continued...

Table B.3—Continued

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
Mobile phone ownership	0.854	0.010	2,128	1,889	1.293	0.012	0.835	0.874
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.881	0.009	2,128	1,889	1.254	0.010	0.864	0.899
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.092	0.009	2,128	1,889	1.362	0.093	0.075	0.109
WOMEN AND MEN								
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.033	0.003	4,724	4,181	1.280	0.101	0.026	0.040
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.013	0.003	1,791	1,561	1.066	0.216	0.008	0.019

Table B.4 Sampling errors: Rural sample, Rwanda DHS 2025

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
HOUSEHOLDS AND POPULATION								
Electricity primary source of lighting	0.410	0.015	37,166	40,240	2.606	0.036	0.380	0.439
Primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	0.012	0.001	37,166	40,240	1.147	0.107	0.010	0.015
Births registered with civil authority	0.948	0.004	4,762	5,182	1.187	0.004	0.940	0.957
Water available when needed	0.687	0.009	37,166	40,240	1.630	0.013	0.669	0.704
Improved sanitation facility	0.835	0.006	37,166	40,240	1.546	0.008	0.822	0.848
At least basic sanitation service	0.757	0.007	37,166	40,240	1.438	0.009	0.743	0.770
Using open defecation	0.021	0.002	37,166	40,240	1.186	0.086	0.017	0.025
Using a handwashing facility with soap and water	0.192	0.006	34,667	37,541	1.373	0.034	0.179	0.205
WOMEN								
No education	0.079	0.004	8,988	9,713	1.269	0.046	0.072	0.086
Secondary education or higher	0.302	0.007	8,988	9,713	1.407	0.023	0.288	0.315
Literacy	0.849	0.005	8,988	9,713	1.377	0.006	0.838	0.859
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.144	0.006	8,988	9,713	1.644	0.042	0.132	0.157
Current tobacco use	0.012	0.001	8,988	9,713	1.030	0.100	0.009	0.014
Age-specific fertility rate 15–19 (3 years)	43.796	2.957	5,309	5,744	1.063	0.068	37.881	49.711
Total fertility rate (3 years)	3.860	0.072	25,089	27,125	1.130	0.019	3.716	4.004
Currently pregnant	0.054	0.003	8,988	9,713	1.085	0.048	0.049	0.059
Mean number of children ever born to women age 40–49	4.724	0.049	2,154	2,326	1.087	0.010	4.626	4.822
Median birth interval	49.779	0.624	3,179	3,459	1.295	0.013	48.531	51.027
Want no more children	0.485	0.007	4,841	5,244	1.000	0.015	0.470	0.499
Ideal number of children	3.208	0.016	8,929	9,650	1.245	0.005	3.175	3.240
Total wanted fertility rate (3 years)	2.936	0.060	25,089	27,125	1.076	0.020	2.817	3.055
Currently using any contraceptive method	0.711	0.007	4,841	5,244	1.047	0.010	0.697	0.724
Currently using any modern method	0.656	0.007	4,841	5,244	1.048	0.011	0.641	0.670
Currently using pill	0.062	0.004	4,841	5,244	1.086	0.061	0.055	0.070
Currently using injectables	0.140	0.005	4,841	5,244	1.096	0.039	0.129	0.150
Currently using implants	0.376	0.008	4,841	5,244	1.111	0.021	0.360	0.391
Currently using male condom	0.024	0.002	4,841	5,244	1.018	0.094	0.019	0.028
Currently using any traditional method	0.055	0.003	4,841	5,244	1.023	0.061	0.048	0.062
Unmet need for spacing	0.034	0.003	4,841	5,244	1.036	0.079	0.029	0.040
Unmet need for limiting	0.051	0.003	4,841	5,244	0.945	0.059	0.045	0.057
Unmet need total	0.085	0.004	4,841	5,244	1.001	0.047	0.077	0.093
Demand satisfied by modern methods (married women)	0.824	0.006	3,851	4,175	1.028	0.008	0.811	0.836
Demand satisfied by modern methods (all women)	0.817	0.006	4,778	5,190	1.051	0.007	0.805	0.828
Participation in decision making about family planning	0.945	0.004	4,841	5,244	1.086	0.004	0.937	0.952
Not exposed to any of the eight media sources	0.200	0.005	8,988	9,713	1.286	0.027	0.190	0.211
Neonatal mortality (last 0–4 years)	16.787	2.013	4,663	5,068	1.044	0.120	12.760	20.813
Postneonatal mortality (last 0–4 years)	11.388	1.609	4,681	5,087	1.008	0.141	8.169	14.606
Infant mortality (last 0–4 years)	28.174	2.630	4,670	5,076	1.025	0.093	22.914	33.435
Child mortality (last 0–4 years)	10.216	1.565	4,665	5,057	1.060	0.153	7.086	13.346
Under-5 mortality (last 0–4 years)	38.102	3.063	4,692	5,100	1.043	0.080	31.976	44.228
Stillbirth rate	11.503	1.784	4,710	5,121	1.140	0.155	7.936	15.070
Early neonatal mortality rate	12.065	1.724	4,660	5,066	1.038	0.143	8.617	15.513
Perinatal mortality rate	23.437	2.502	4,710	5,121	1.096	0.107	18.433	28.441
Received ANC from a skilled provider	0.957	0.005	1,834	2,004	1.008	0.005	0.948	0.967
4+ ANC visits	0.796	0.010	1,834	2,004	1.111	0.013	0.775	0.817
8+ ANC visits	0.194	0.010	1,834	2,004	1.059	0.050	0.174	0.214
Took any iron-containing supplements	0.917	0.008	1,834	2,004	1.165	0.008	0.902	0.932
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.766	0.012	1,834	2,004	1.174	0.015	0.742	0.789
Delivered in a health facility (live births)	0.979	0.004	1,887	2,063	1.189	0.004	0.971	0.987
Delivered by a skilled provider (live births)	0.980	0.004	1,887	2,063	1.159	0.004	0.972	0.987
Delivered by C-section (live births)	0.218	0.011	1,887	2,063	1.090	0.049	0.197	0.239

Continued...

Table B.4—Continued

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
Women with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.667	0.012	1,834	2,004	1.105	0.018	0.642	0.691
Newborns with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.704	0.012	1,834	2,004	1.088	0.016	0.681	0.728
Any problem accessing health care	0.545	0.009	8,988	9,713	1.785	0.017	0.526	0.564
Ever had a vaccination card	0.915	0.015	904	990	1.624	0.016	0.885	0.945
Received BCG vaccination	0.982	0.005	904	990	1.049	0.005	0.972	0.991
Received DPT-HepB-Hib vaccination (3 doses)	0.978	0.006	904	990	1.180	0.006	0.966	0.989
Received pneumococcal vaccination (3 doses)	0.967	0.007	904	990	1.266	0.008	0.952	0.982
Received measles vaccination	0.973	0.006	904	990	1.109	0.006	0.961	0.985
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (12–23 months)	0.800	0.016	904	990	1.218	0.020	0.768	0.833
Received measles/measles-rubella 2 vaccination (24–35 months)	0.926	0.012	867	939	1.281	0.012	0.903	0.949
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (24–35 months)	0.792	0.016	867	939	1.166	0.021	0.759	0.825
Received HPV vaccination (2 doses) women 15–17	0.697	0.015	1,178	1,272	1.140	0.022	0.666	0.728
Sought treatment for diarrhoea	0.643	0.020	688	762	1.067	0.030	0.604	0.682
Treated with ORS	0.374	0.022	688	762	1.175	0.059	0.330	0.418
Height-for-age (–3 SD)	0.076	0.004	4,754	5,173	1.104	0.058	0.067	0.085
Height-for-age (–2 SD)	0.301	0.008	4,754	5,173	1.188	0.027	0.285	0.318
Weight-for-height (–2 SD)	0.007	0.001	4,752	5,170	1.012	0.174	0.005	0.009
Weight-for-height (+2 SD)	0.050	0.003	4,752	5,170	1.043	0.067	0.043	0.057
Weight-for-age (–2 SD)	0.065	0.004	4,757	5,176	1.075	0.061	0.057	0.073
Exclusive breastfeeding	0.823	0.019	469	512	1.086	0.023	0.784	0.861
Minimum dietary diversity (children 6–23 months)	0.406	0.014	1,323	1,449	1.009	0.034	0.378	0.433
Body mass index (BMI) <18.5	0.042	0.004	3,266	3,523	1.084	0.090	0.035	0.050
Body mass index (BMI) ≥5	0.278	0.009	3,266	3,523	1.148	0.032	0.260	0.296
Body mass index-for-age (–2 SD)	0.004	0.002	919	993	1.003	0.500	0.000	0.009
Body mass index-for-age (+1 SD)	0.189	0.013	919	993	1.021	0.070	0.163	0.216
Minimum dietary diversity (15–49)	0.276	0.006	8,988	9,713	1.318	0.022	0.264	0.289
Child had fever in last 2 weeks	0.173	0.007	4,512	4,907	1.203	0.040	0.159	0.187
Child had blood taken from finger/heel	0.438	0.021	768	849	1.147	0.048	0.396	0.480
Child took ACT	0.974	0.025	42	48	1.056	0.026	0.924	1.000
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.143	0.005	8,954	9,678	1.352	0.035	0.133	0.153
Condom use at last sex	0.421	0.018	844	918	1.065	0.043	0.385	0.458
Ever tested for HIV and received the results of the last test	0.762	0.005	8,988	9,713	1.007	0.006	0.753	0.771
Stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in community settings	0.638	0.035	139	150	0.867	0.056	0.567	0.709
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.022	0.002	4,491	4,773	1.025	0.102	0.018	0.027
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.005	0.002	1,685	1,796	1.111	0.384	0.001	0.009
Mobile phone ownership	0.558	0.007	8,988	9,713	1.289	0.012	0.544	0.571
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.553	0.007	8,988	9,713	1.429	0.014	0.538	0.568
Participate in decision making (all three decisions)	0.591	0.008	4,841	5,244	1.189	0.014	0.575	0.608
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.336	0.006	8,988	9,713	1.280	0.019	0.323	0.348
Make own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive care	0.526	0.008	4,841	5,244	1.138	0.016	0.510	0.542
Experienced physical violence since age 15 by any perpetrator	0.345	0.009	3,429	3,606	1.108	0.026	0.327	0.363
Experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator ever	0.184	0.008	3,429	3,606	1.167	0.042	0.168	0.199
Experienced sexual violence by any non-intimate partner	0.103	0.006	3,429	3,606	1.146	0.058	0.091	0.115
Experienced physical or sexual violence by the current or most recent husband or intimate partner ever	0.306	0.009	3,074	3,128	1.051	0.029	0.288	0.323
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner in the last 12 months	0.316	0.010	3,074	3,128	1.141	0.030	0.297	0.335
MEN								
No education	0.070	0.005	3,753	4,002	1.163	0.069	0.060	0.079
Secondary education or higher	0.267	0.009	3,753	4,002	1.198	0.032	0.250	0.285
Literacy	0.854	0.007	3,753	4,002	1.160	0.008	0.841	0.868
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.238	0.009	3,753	4,002	1.253	0.037	0.221	0.256
Current tobacco use	0.055	0.004	3,753	4,002	1.077	0.073	0.047	0.063
Want no more children	0.459	0.011	1,943	2,073	1.011	0.025	0.437	0.482
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.121	0.006	3,732	3,979	1.144	0.050	0.109	0.134
Condom use at last sex	0.683	0.021	474	503	0.993	0.031	0.640	0.725
Ever tested for HIV and received results of last test	0.681	0.009	3,753	4,002	1.128	0.013	0.664	0.699
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.011	0.002	3,741	4,005	1.069	0.167	0.007	0.014
HIV prevalence (15–59)	0.013	0.002	4,212	4,510	1.065	0.141	0.010	0.017
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.006	0.002	1,587	1,701	0.976	0.318	0.002	0.010
Male circumcision	0.672	0.010	3,753	4,002	1.251	0.014	0.653	0.691
Mobile phone ownership	0.675	0.008	3,753	4,002	1.101	0.012	0.659	0.692
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.674	0.008	3,753	4,002	1.080	0.012	0.657	0.690
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.171	0.007	3,753	4,002	1.164	0.042	0.157	0.186
WOMEN AND MEN								
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.017	0.002	8,232	8,778	1.147	0.096	0.014	0.020
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.005	0.001	3,272	3,497	1.045	0.248	0.003	0.008

Table B.5 Sampling errors: City of Kigali sample, Rwanda DHS 2025

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
HOUSEHOLDS AND POPULATION								
Primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	0.202	0.023	5,995	7,678	2.228	0.116	0.155	0.248
Births registered with civil authority	0.965	0.007	754	993	1.079	0.008	0.951	0.980
Water available when needed	0.648	0.028	5,995	7,678	2.116	0.044	0.591	0.704
At least basic sanitation service	0.544	0.028	5,995	7,678	2.035	0.051	0.488	0.600
Using open defecation	0.003	0.001	5,995	7,678	0.960	0.395	0.001	0.005
Using a handwashing facility with soap and water	0.249	0.026	5,668	7,297	2.018	0.103	0.198	0.301
WOMEN								
No education	0.026	0.004	1,752	2,290	1.088	0.159	0.018	0.034
Secondary education or higher	0.552	0.021	1,752	2,290	1.735	0.037	0.511	0.593
Literacy	0.956	0.006	1,752	2,290	1.221	0.006	0.945	0.968
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.524	0.025	1,752	2,290	2.075	0.047	0.475	0.574
Current tobacco use	0.008	0.002	1,752	2,290	1.008	0.264	0.004	0.013
Total fertility rate (3 years)	3.055	0.189	5,010	6,564	1.433	0.062	2.676	3.434
Currently pregnant	0.042	0.006	1,752	2,290	1.321	0.151	0.029	0.054
Mean number of children ever born to women age 40–49	3.748	0.154	267	329	1.262	0.041	3.440	4.057
Median birth interval	46.283	2.189	519	693	1.152	0.047	41.905	50.662
Ideal number of children	3.046	0.038	1,736	2,266	1.359	0.013	2.969	3.123
Total wanted fertility rate (3 years)	2.329	0.145	5,010	6,564	1.224	0.062	2.039	2.618
Currently using any contraceptive method	0.658	0.021	786	1,030	1.253	0.032	0.615	0.700
Currently using any modern method	0.613	0.021	786	1,030	1.181	0.033	0.572	0.654
Currently using pill	0.074	0.010	786	1,030	1.120	0.141	0.053	0.095
Currently using injectables	0.166	0.016	786	1,030	1.188	0.095	0.135	0.198
Currently using implants	0.252	0.015	786	1,030	0.979	0.060	0.221	0.282
Currently using male condom	0.023	0.007	786	1,030	1.331	0.307	0.009	0.038
Currently using any traditional method	0.045	0.009	786	1,030	1.201	0.198	0.027	0.062
Unmet need for spacing	0.043	0.006	786	1,030	0.880	0.149	0.030	0.055
Unmet need for limiting	0.042	0.008	786	1,030	1.108	0.188	0.027	0.058
Unmet need total	0.085	0.010	786	1,030	1.040	0.122	0.064	0.106
Demand satisfied by modern methods (married women)	0.825	0.015	586	765	0.968	0.018	0.795	0.856
Demand satisfied by modern methods (all women)	0.798	0.014	776	1,001	0.941	0.017	0.771	0.825
Participation in decision making about family planning	0.925	0.015	786	1,030	1.561	0.016	0.896	0.955
Not exposed to any of the eight media sources	0.217	0.024	1,752	2,290	2.411	0.110	0.170	0.265
Neonatal mortality (last 0–9 years)	13.651	3.298	1,536	2,038	1.028	0.242	7.056	20.246
Postneonatal mortality (last 0–9 years)	13.017	3.148	1,529	2,026	1.086	0.242	6.721	19.313
Infant mortality (last 0–9 years)	26.668	4.687	1,536	2,038	1.108	0.176	17.293	36.043
Child mortality (last 0–9 years)	5.152	2.226	1,510	1,995	1.142	0.432	0.700	9.603
Under-5 mortality (last 0–9 years)	31.682	5.129	1,536	2,038	1.138	0.162	21.425	41.940
Stillbirth rate	13.858	5.526	789	1,056	1.173	0.399	2.806	24.910
Early neonatal mortality rate	16.086	5.703	780	1,041	1.162	0.355	4.679	27.492
Perinatal mortality rate	29.721	8.181	789	1,056	1.229	0.275	13.360	46.082
Received ANC from a skilled provider	0.949	0.015	296	400	1.177	0.016	0.919	0.979
4+ ANC visits	0.673	0.034	296	400	1.254	0.051	0.605	0.742
8+ ANC visits	0.171	0.025	296	400	1.125	0.144	0.121	0.220
Took any iron-containing supplements	0.923	0.018	296	400	1.140	0.019	0.887	0.958
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.802	0.022	296	400	0.948	0.027	0.758	0.846
Delivered in a health facility (live births)	0.979	0.008	303	410	1.018	0.008	0.963	0.996
Delivered by a skilled provider (live births)	0.976	0.008	303	410	0.954	0.009	0.959	0.992
Delivered by C-section (live births)	0.252	0.026	303	410	1.032	0.102	0.200	0.303
Women with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.733	0.035	296	400	1.359	0.048	0.663	0.803
Newborns with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.763	0.031	296	400	1.259	0.041	0.700	0.825
Any problem accessing health care	0.293	0.024	1,752	2,290	2.208	0.082	0.245	0.341
Ever had a vaccination card	0.831	0.035	136	188	1.120	0.042	0.761	0.901
Received BCG vaccination	0.955	0.017	136	188	0.993	0.018	0.921	0.990
Received DPT-HepB-Hib vaccination (3 doses)	0.951	0.019	136	188	1.078	0.020	0.913	0.990
Received pneumococcal vaccination (3 doses)	0.956	0.019	136	188	1.096	0.020	0.918	0.993
Received measles vaccination	0.914	0.030	136	188	1.263	0.032	0.855	0.973
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (12–23 months)	0.837	0.038	136	188	1.222	0.045	0.762	0.912
Received measles/measles-rubella 2 vaccination (24–35 months)	0.888	0.026	149	203	1.007	0.029	0.837	0.939
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (24–35 months)	0.811	0.032	149	203	1.002	0.039	0.748	0.874
Received HPV vaccination (2 doses) women 15–17	0.647	0.036	160	206	0.939	0.055	0.576	0.718
Sought treatment for diarrhoea	0.610	0.085	73	107	1.551	0.139	0.440	0.779
Treated with ORS	0.286	0.063	73	107	1.266	0.219	0.161	0.411
Height-for-age (–3 SD)	0.020	0.005	742	975	1.067	0.268	0.009	0.031
Height-for-age (–2 SD)	0.142	0.014	742	975	1.083	0.100	0.114	0.171
Weight-for-height (–2 SD)	0.008	0.004	742	975	1.081	0.430	0.001	0.015
Weight-for-height (+2 SD)	0.037	0.007	742	975	1.074	0.198	0.022	0.051
Weight-for-age (–2 SD)	0.054	0.009	742	975	1.103	0.168	0.036	0.072
Exclusive breastfeeding	0.807	0.046	67	87	0.941	0.057	0.715	0.898
Minimum dietary diversity (children 6–23 months)	0.488	0.041	215	293	1.192	0.084	0.406	0.569
Body mass index (BMI) <18.5	0.032	0.007	659	860	1.011	0.217	0.018	0.046
Body mass index (BMI) ≥25	0.511	0.023	659	860	1.159	0.044	0.466	0.556
Body mass index-for-age (–2 SD)	0.010	0.010	149	201	1.202	1.009	0.000	0.029
Body mass index-for-age (+1 SD)	0.227	0.033	149	201	0.962	0.146	0.161	0.293
Minimum dietary diversity (15–49)	0.487	0.019	1,752	2,290	1.573	0.039	0.449	0.524

Continued...

Table B.5—Continued

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
Child had fever in last 2 weeks	0.092	0.011	759	1,013	1.077	0.121	0.070	0.114
Child had blood taken from finger/heel	0.610	0.062	69	93	1.067	0.101	0.486	0.733
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.075	0.007	1,748	2,286	1.147	0.096	0.060	0.089
Condom use at last sex	0.489	0.030	303	382	1.055	0.062	0.429	0.550
Ever tested for HIV and received the results of the last test	0.818	0.011	1,752	2,290	1.142	0.013	0.797	0.839
Stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in community settings	0.424	0.089	45	57	1.191	0.210	0.246	0.602
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.045	0.006	861	1,132	0.875	0.137	0.033	0.058
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.010	0.005	339	447	0.903	0.479	0.000	0.020
Mobile phone ownership	0.830	0.013	1,752	2,290	1.450	0.016	0.804	0.856
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.832	0.013	1,752	2,290	1.404	0.015	0.807	0.857
Participate in decision making (all three decisions)	0.712	0.023	786	1,030	1.427	0.032	0.666	0.758
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.153	0.009	1,752	2,290	1.102	0.062	0.134	0.172
Make own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive care	0.541	0.023	786	1,030	1.296	0.043	0.495	0.587
Experienced physical violence since age 15 by any perpetrator	0.286	0.030	600	848	1.618	0.105	0.226	0.346
Experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator ever	0.207	0.022	600	848	1.343	0.108	0.162	0.251
Experienced sexual violence by any non-intimate partner	0.129	0.017	600	848	1.260	0.134	0.095	0.164
Experienced physical or sexual violence by the current or most recent husband or intimate partner ever	0.237	0.024	485	636	1.246	0.102	0.189	0.285
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner in the last 12 months	0.256	0.021	485	636	1.070	0.083	0.214	0.298
MEN								
No education	0.025	0.007	772	1,020	1.285	0.287	0.011	0.040
Secondary education or higher	0.552	0.031	772	1,020	1.732	0.056	0.490	0.614
Literacy	0.965	0.008	772	1,020	1.196	0.008	0.949	0.981
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.617	0.024	772	1,020	1.348	0.038	0.569	0.664
Current tobacco use	0.074	0.010	772	1,020	1.101	0.141	0.053	0.094
Want no more children	0.403	0.029	349	470	1.102	0.072	0.345	0.461
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.068	0.011	771	1,017	1.226	0.164	0.046	0.090
Condom use at last sex	0.656	0.044	170	219	1.203	0.067	0.568	0.744
Ever tested for HIV and received results of last test	0.800	0.015	772	1,020	1.060	0.019	0.769	0.831
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.027	0.007	748	1,021	1.257	0.277	0.012	0.042
HIV prevalence (15–59)	0.030	0.007	810	1,097	1.255	0.253	0.015	0.045
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.021	0.010	249	335	1.055	0.452	0.002	0.041
Male circumcision	0.815	0.015	772	1,020	1.043	0.018	0.786	0.844
Mobile phone ownership	0.891	0.014	772	1,020	1.218	0.015	0.864	0.918
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.918	0.012	772	1,020	1.227	0.013	0.893	0.942
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.076	0.013	772	1,020	1.319	0.166	0.051	0.101
WOMEN AND MEN								
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.037	0.005	1,609	2,153	1.136	0.145	0.026	0.047
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.015	0.005	588	782	0.914	0.304	0.006	0.024

Table B.6 Sampling errors: Southern Province sample, Rwanda DHS 2025

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
HOUSEHOLDS AND POPULATION								
Primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	0.028	0.003	13,965	12,802	1.137	0.116	0.021	0.034
Births registered with civil authority	0.936	0.008	1,789	1,638	1.204	0.008	0.921	0.952
Water available when needed	0.761	0.013	13,965	12,802	1.650	0.017	0.735	0.787
At least basic sanitation service	0.725	0.012	13,965	12,802	1.510	0.017	0.701	0.750
Using open defecation	0.015	0.003	13,965	12,802	1.276	0.182	0.010	0.021
Using a handwashing facility with soap and water	0.204	0.009	13,192	12,069	1.158	0.044	0.186	0.222
WOMEN								
No education	0.064	0.005	3,424	3,087	1.139	0.074	0.054	0.073
Secondary education or higher	0.351	0.011	3,424	3,087	1.352	0.031	0.329	0.373
Literacy	0.860	0.007	3,424	3,087	1.226	0.008	0.846	0.875
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.218	0.011	3,424	3,087	1.596	0.052	0.195	0.240
Current tobacco use	0.016	0.002	3,424	3,087	0.948	0.125	0.012	0.021
Total fertility rate (3 years)	3.762	0.126	9,569	8,621	1.227	0.033	3.511	4.013
Currently pregnant	0.055	0.005	3,424	3,087	1.261	0.089	0.045	0.065
Mean number of children ever born to women age 40–49	4.251	0.084	812	755	1.228	0.020	4.084	4.418
Median birth interval	49.390	0.999	1,170	1,071	1.224	0.020	47.391	51.388
Ideal number of children	3.099	0.026	3,417	3,079	1.300	0.008	3.048	3.151
Total wanted fertility rate (3 years)	2.836	0.101	9,569	8,621	1.153	0.036	2.634	3.039
Currently using any contraceptive method	0.705	0.013	1,746	1,595	1.165	0.018	0.679	0.730
Currently using any modern method	0.637	0.012	1,746	1,595	1.066	0.019	0.613	0.662
Currently using pill	0.083	0.008	1,746	1,595	1.174	0.094	0.067	0.098
Currently using injectables	0.125	0.009	1,746	1,595	1.076	0.068	0.108	0.142
Currently using implants	0.329	0.012	1,746	1,595	1.101	0.038	0.304	0.353
Currently using male condom	0.028	0.004	1,746	1,595	0.896	0.126	0.021	0.035
Currently using any traditional method	0.067	0.006	1,746	1,595	0.991	0.088	0.056	0.079
Unmet need for spacing	0.029	0.004	1,746	1,595	1.017	0.141	0.021	0.037
Unmet need for limiting	0.056	0.006	1,746	1,595	1.043	0.102	0.045	0.068
Unmet need total	0.085	0.007	1,746	1,595	1.065	0.083	0.071	0.100
Demand satisfied by modern methods (married women)	0.807	0.011	1,372	1,261	1.052	0.014	0.784	0.829
Demand satisfied by modern methods (all women)	0.799	0.010	1,751	1,607	1.064	0.013	0.779	0.820
Participation in decision making about family planning	0.949	0.005	1,746	1,595	0.992	0.006	0.938	0.959
Not exposed to any of the eight media sources	0.183	0.007	3,424	3,087	1.118	0.040	0.168	0.197
Neonatal mortality (last 0–9 years)	17.402	2.560	3,359	3,073	1.078	0.147	12.281	22.522
Postneonatal mortality (last 0–9 years)	9.644	1.830	3,359	3,073	1.037	0.190	5.985	13.303
Infant mortality (last 0–9 years)	27.045	3.587	3,359	3,073	1.142	0.133	19.871	34.220
Child mortality (last 0–9 years)	7.948	1.883	3,307	3,021	1.194	0.237	4.181	11.714
Under-5 mortality (last 0–9 years)	34.778	4.153	3,368	3,082	1.159	0.119	26.472	43.084
Stillbirth rate	9.550	2.533	1,731	1,575	1.094	0.265	4.485	14.615
Early neonatal mortality rate	9.366	2.259	1,716	1,562	0.984	0.241	4.847	13.885
Perinatal mortality rate	18.839	3.184	1,731	1,575	0.992	0.169	12.471	25.207
Received ANC from a skilled provider	0.992	0.003	678	616	1.001	0.004	0.985	0.999
4+ ANC visits	0.834	0.017	678	616	1.173	0.020	0.801	0.868
8+ ANC visits	0.205	0.016	678	616	1.026	0.078	0.173	0.237
Took any iron-containing supplements	0.938	0.011	678	616	1.162	0.011	0.917	0.960
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.792	0.018	678	616	1.133	0.022	0.756	0.827
Delivered in a health facility (live births)	0.980	0.006	699	634	1.185	0.006	0.968	0.993
Delivered by a skilled provider (live births)	0.982	0.006	699	634	1.132	0.006	0.971	0.993
Delivered by C-section (live births)	0.273	0.018	699	634	1.034	0.066	0.237	0.309
Women with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.662	0.019	678	616	1.027	0.028	0.624	0.699
Newborns with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.714	0.016	678	616	0.936	0.023	0.682	0.747
Any problem accessing health care	0.580	0.014	3,424	3,087	1.677	0.024	0.552	0.609
Ever had a vaccination card	0.938	0.013	322	291	0.981	0.014	0.912	0.965
Received BCG vaccination	0.985	0.007	322	291	1.003	0.007	0.971	0.999
Received DPT-HepB-Hib vaccination (3 doses)	0.986	0.006	322	291	0.975	0.006	0.973	0.999
Received pneumococcal vaccination (3 doses)	0.977	0.010	322	291	1.148	0.010	0.958	0.997
Received measles vaccination	0.987	0.006	322	291	1.018	0.006	0.975	1.000
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (12–23 months)	0.850	0.021	322	291	1.019	0.025	0.808	0.891
Received measles/measles-rubella 2 vaccination (24–35 months)	0.957	0.014	323	294	1.146	0.015	0.929	0.985
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (24–35 months)	0.827	0.023	323	294	1.061	0.028	0.780	0.873
Received HPV vaccination (2 doses) women 15–17	0.696	0.025	443	397	1.141	0.036	0.647	0.746
Sought treatment for diarrhoea	0.638	0.031	242	224	0.969	0.048	0.576	0.700
Treated with ORS	0.384	0.037	242	224	1.157	0.096	0.311	0.458
Height-for-age (–3 SD)	0.056	0.006	1,777	1,622	1.097	0.111	0.044	0.069
Height-for-age (–2 SD)	0.261	0.013	1,777	1,622	1.157	0.048	0.236	0.286
Weight-for-height (–2 SD)	0.007	0.002	1,778	1,622	0.992	0.281	0.003	0.011
Weight-for-height (+2 SD)	0.040	0.005	1,778	1,622	1.059	0.123	0.030	0.050
Weight-for-age (–2 SD)	0.068	0.006	1,780	1,623	1.067	0.096	0.055	0.081
Exclusive breastfeeding	0.812	0.027	187	170	0.957	0.034	0.757	0.867
Minimum dietary diversity (children 6–23 months)	0.518	0.026	479	435	1.129	0.050	0.467	0.570
Body mass index (BMI) <18.5	0.073	0.008	1,263	1,142	1.157	0.116	0.056	0.090
Body mass index (BMI) ≥25	0.258	0.013	1,263	1,142	1.074	0.051	0.231	0.284
Body mass index-for-age (–2 SD)	0.003	0.003	356	322	1.086	1.005	0.000	0.010
Body mass index-for-age (+1 SD)	0.161	0.020	356	322	1.048	0.127	0.120	0.202
Minimum dietary diversity (15–49)	0.345	0.011	3,424	3,087	1.356	0.032	0.323	0.367

Continued...

Table B.6—Continued

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
Child had fever in last 2 weeks	0.199	0.012	1,668	1,518	1.186	0.060	0.175	0.223
Child had blood taken from finger/heel	0.482	0.033	320	301	1.171	0.069	0.415	0.548
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.113	0.006	3,412	3,078	1.198	0.057	0.100	0.126
Condom use at last sex	0.440	0.027	352	309	1.016	0.061	0.386	0.494
Ever tested for HIV and received the results of the last test	0.769	0.008	3,424	3,087	1.094	0.010	0.753	0.785
Stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in community settings	0.584	0.055	80	68	0.991	0.094	0.474	0.694
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.030	0.004	1,729	1,541	1.036	0.142	0.021	0.038
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.009	0.004	644	565	1.074	0.440	0.001	0.017
Mobile phone ownership	0.574	0.010	3,424	3,087	1.224	0.018	0.554	0.595
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.583	0.011	3,424	3,087	1.330	0.019	0.560	0.605
Participate in decision making (all three decisions)	0.572	0.013	1,746	1,595	1.095	0.023	0.546	0.598
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.345	0.011	3,424	3,087	1.317	0.031	0.324	0.367
Make own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive care	0.561	0.012	1,746	1,595	1.022	0.022	0.537	0.586
Experienced physical violence since age 15 by any perpetrator	0.372	0.015	1,267	1,122	1.129	0.041	0.341	0.403
Experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator ever	0.214	0.013	1,267	1,122	1.166	0.063	0.187	0.241
Experienced sexual violence by any non-intimate partner	0.133	0.011	1,267	1,122	1.116	0.080	0.111	0.154
Experienced physical or sexual violence by the current or most recent husband or intimate partner ever	0.324	0.015	1,142	985	1.078	0.046	0.294	0.353
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner in the last 12 months	0.323	0.016	1,142	985	1.136	0.049	0.291	0.354
MEN								
No education	0.072	0.008	1,482	1,317	1.172	0.109	0.056	0.088
Secondary education or higher	0.306	0.016	1,482	1,317	1.321	0.052	0.274	0.337
Literacy	0.857	0.011	1,482	1,317	1.232	0.013	0.834	0.879
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.286	0.017	1,482	1,317	1.452	0.060	0.252	0.320
Current tobacco use	0.063	0.006	1,482	1,317	1.013	0.102	0.050	0.076
Want no more children	0.481	0.020	680	606	1.026	0.041	0.441	0.520
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.097	0.008	1,476	1,311	1.065	0.085	0.080	0.113
Condom use at last sex	0.732	0.037	173	149	1.095	0.051	0.658	0.806
Ever tested for HIV and received results of last test	0.669	0.013	1,482	1,317	1.096	0.020	0.642	0.696
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.014	0.003	1,474	1,318	1.041	0.226	0.008	0.021
HIV prevalence (15–59)	0.017	0.003	1,657	1,491	1.106	0.208	0.010	0.024
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.008	0.003	654	591	0.909	0.392	0.002	0.015
Male circumcision	0.662	0.016	1,482	1,317	1.293	0.024	0.631	0.694
Mobile phone ownership	0.660	0.015	1,482	1,317	1.209	0.023	0.630	0.690
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.676	0.016	1,482	1,317	1.296	0.023	0.644	0.707
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.174	0.011	1,482	1,317	1.148	0.065	0.151	0.196
WOMEN AND MEN								
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.023	0.003	3,203	2,858	1.124	0.130	0.017	0.029
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.009	0.003	1,298	1,155	1.002	0.298	0.004	0.014

Table B.7 Sampling errors: Western Province sample, Rwanda DHS 2025

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un-weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
HOUSEHOLDS AND POPULATION								
Primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	0.020	0.004	12,936	11,846	1.516	0.183	0.013	0.028
Births registered with civil authority	0.959	0.005	1,749	1,604	1.114	0.006	0.948	0.970
Water available when needed	0.733	0.014	12,936	11,846	1.588	0.019	0.705	0.761
At least basic sanitation service	0.763	0.011	12,936	11,846	1.413	0.015	0.740	0.786
Using open defecation	0.019	0.002	12,936	11,846	1.020	0.128	0.014	0.024
Using a handwashing facility with soap and water	0.162	0.014	12,129	11,145	1.844	0.084	0.134	0.189
WOMEN								
No education	0.095	0.008	3,227	2,949	1.463	0.080	0.079	0.110
Secondary education or higher	0.339	0.013	3,227	2,949	1.609	0.040	0.312	0.366
Literacy	0.847	0.010	3,227	2,949	1.632	0.012	0.826	0.867
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.193	0.014	3,227	2,949	1.973	0.071	0.166	0.221
Current tobacco use	0.003	0.001	3,227	2,949	1.010	0.323	0.001	0.005
Total fertility rate (3 years)	3.856	0.117	9,065	8,282	1.165	0.030	3.622	4.089
Currently pregnant	0.058	0.004	3,227	2,949	1.083	0.077	0.049	0.067
Mean number of children ever born to women age 40–49	4.984	0.088	710	657	1.028	0.018	4.808	5.160
Median birth interval	46.268	1.008	1,206	1,107	1.184	0.022	44.251	48.285
Ideal number of children	3.471	0.034	3,205	2,930	1.414	0.010	3.403	3.539
Total wanted fertility rate (3 years)	2.909	0.101	9,065	8,282	1.147	0.035	2.707	3.112
Currently using any contraceptive method	0.670	0.013	1,692	1,559	1.126	0.019	0.644	0.696
Currently using any modern method	0.610	0.014	1,692	1,559	1.178	0.023	0.582	0.638
Currently using pill	0.045	0.005	1,692	1,559	1.090	0.122	0.034	0.056
Currently using injectables	0.147	0.009	1,692	1,559	1.090	0.064	0.128	0.166
Currently using implants	0.333	0.015	1,692	1,559	1.325	0.046	0.303	0.364
Currently using male condom	0.017	0.004	1,692	1,559	1.173	0.215	0.010	0.025
Currently using any traditional method	0.061	0.008	1,692	1,559	1.314	0.126	0.045	0.076
Unmet need for spacing	0.059	0.006	1,692	1,559	1.104	0.107	0.046	0.072
Unmet need for limiting	0.052	0.005	1,692	1,559	0.954	0.099	0.042	0.062
Unmet need total	0.111	0.007	1,692	1,559	0.966	0.066	0.096	0.126
Demand satisfied by modern methods (married women)	0.781	0.012	1,321	1,217	1.097	0.016	0.756	0.806
Demand satisfied by modern methods (all women)	0.780	0.011	1,589	1,453	1.078	0.014	0.758	0.803
Participation in decision making about family planning	0.947	0.006	1,692	1,559	1.053	0.006	0.935	0.958
Not exposed to any of the eight media sources	0.210	0.011	3,227	2,949	1.508	0.052	0.188	0.232
Neonatal mortality (last 0–9 years)	17.412	2.395	3,448	3,164	0.992	0.138	12.623	22.201
Postneonatal mortality (last 0–9 years)	10.203	1.733	3,440	3,154	1.027	0.170	6.736	13.669
Infant mortality (last 0–9 years)	27.615	2.993	3,448	3,164	1.012	0.108	21.630	33.600
Child mortality (last 0–9 years)	8.968	1.717	3,408	3,139	1.044	0.191	5.534	12.402
Under-5 mortality (last 0–9 years)	36.336	3.625	3,450	3,166	1.054	0.100	29.085	43.586
Stillbirth rate	15.462	3.897	1,756	1,607	1.284	0.252	7.667	23.256
Early neonatal mortality rate	10.152	3.080	1,733	1,585	1.045	0.303	3.992	16.311
Perinatal mortality rate	25.472	5.163	1,756	1,607	1.246	0.203	15.146	35.799
Received ANC from a skilled provider	0.976	0.007	653	598	1.117	0.007	0.962	0.989
4+ ANC visits	0.793	0.018	653	598	1.110	0.022	0.758	0.828
8+ ANC visits	0.223	0.019	653	598	1.175	0.086	0.185	0.261
Took any iron-containing supplements	0.943	0.010	653	598	1.111	0.011	0.923	0.963
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.819	0.017	653	598	1.109	0.020	0.785	0.852
Delivered in a health facility (live births)	0.982	0.005	680	622	0.984	0.005	0.972	0.993
Delivered by a skilled provider (live births)	0.980	0.006	680	622	0.951	0.006	0.969	0.991
Delivered by C-section (live births)	0.218	0.019	680	622	1.151	0.087	0.180	0.256
Women with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.675	0.022	653	598	1.173	0.032	0.632	0.718
Newborns with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.675	0.020	653	598	1.070	0.029	0.635	0.714
Any problem accessing health care	0.561	0.018	3,227	2,949	2.046	0.032	0.525	0.596
Ever had a vaccination card	0.922	0.016	315	290	1.060	0.017	0.891	0.954
Received BCG vaccination	0.993	0.005	315	290	0.979	0.005	0.984	1.000
Received DPT–HepB–Hib vaccination (3 doses)	0.987	0.007	315	290	1.133	0.007	0.973	1.000
Received pneumococcal vaccination (3 doses)	0.966	0.012	315	290	1.141	0.012	0.942	0.989
Received measles vaccination	0.985	0.009	315	290	1.352	0.010	0.966	1.000
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (12–23 months)	0.827	0.031	315	290	1.439	0.037	0.765	0.888
Received measles/measles-rubella 2 vaccination (24–35 months)	0.934	0.014	342	308	1.029	0.015	0.906	0.962
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (24–35 months)	0.815	0.025	342	308	1.184	0.031	0.764	0.866
Received HPV vaccination (2 doses) women 15–17	0.700	0.027	400	366	1.158	0.038	0.646	0.753
Sought treatment for diarrhoea	0.658	0.033	242	225	1.087	0.050	0.592	0.724
Treated with ORS	0.358	0.041	242	225	1.306	0.114	0.277	0.440
Height-for-age (–3 SD)	0.092	0.009	1,739	1,593	1.202	0.095	0.074	0.109
Height-for-age (–2 SD)	0.326	0.016	1,739	1,593	1.307	0.048	0.295	0.357
Weight-for-height (–2 SD)	0.010	0.003	1,738	1,592	1.106	0.275	0.004	0.015
Weight-for-height (+2 SD)	0.071	0.007	1,738	1,592	1.057	0.092	0.058	0.084
Weight-for-age (–2 SD)	0.054	0.006	1,743	1,596	1.097	0.112	0.042	0.066
Exclusive breastfeeding	0.806	0.034	178	167	1.132	0.042	0.739	0.873
Minimum dietary diversity (children 6–23 months)	0.374	0.024	462	419	1.056	0.064	0.326	0.422
Body mass index (BMI) <18.5	0.030	0.005	1,173	1,076	1.067	0.178	0.019	0.040
Body mass index (BMI) ≥25	0.345	0.018	1,173	1,076	1.273	0.051	0.310	0.380
Body mass index-for-age (–2 SD)	0.004	0.004	295	270	1.099	0.998	0.000	0.012
Body mass index-for-age (+1 SD)	0.178	0.025	295	270	1.126	0.141	0.127	0.228
Minimum dietary diversity (15–49)	0.245	0.010	3,227	2,949	1.360	0.042	0.224	0.265

Continued...

Table B.7—Continued

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
Child had fever in last 2 weeks	0.114	0.009	1,686	1,541	1.127	0.080	0.096	0.132
Child had blood taken from finger/heel	0.317	0.033	190	175	0.969	0.105	0.250	0.383
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.166	0.011	3,214	2,936	1.635	0.065	0.145	0.188
Condom use at last sex	0.434	0.037	254	224	1.177	0.085	0.361	0.508
Ever tested for HIV and received the results of the last test	0.743	0.009	3,227	2,949	1.117	0.012	0.725	0.760
Stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in community settings	0.697	0.066	59	48	1.089	0.094	0.566	0.829
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.026	0.005	1,594	1,439	1.133	0.174	0.017	0.035
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.003	0.003	580	526	1.365	0.990	0.000	0.010
Mobile phone ownership	0.613	0.012	3,227	2,949	1.429	0.020	0.588	0.637
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.607	0.014	3,227	2,949	1.664	0.024	0.578	0.635
Participate in decision making (all three decisions)	0.639	0.013	1,692	1,559	1.155	0.021	0.612	0.666
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.344	0.012	3,227	2,949	1.438	0.035	0.320	0.368
Make own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive care	0.511	0.016	1,692	1,559	1.282	0.030	0.480	0.542
Experienced physical violence since age 15 by any perpetrator	0.286	0.015	1,209	1,110	1.133	0.052	0.256	0.315
Experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator ever	0.135	0.012	1,209	1,110	1.189	0.087	0.112	0.158
Experienced sexual violence by any non-intimate partner	0.082	0.010	1,209	1,110	1.213	0.117	0.063	0.101
Experienced physical or sexual violence by the current or most recent husband or intimate partner ever	0.255	0.016	1,065	937	1.188	0.062	0.223	0.287
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner in the last 12 months	0.273	0.015	1,065	937	1.115	0.056	0.242	0.303
MEN								
No education	0.069	0.008	1,205	1,100	1.091	0.115	0.053	0.085
Secondary education or higher	0.298	0.017	1,205	1,100	1.292	0.057	0.264	0.332
Literacy	0.876	0.010	1,205	1,100	1.047	0.011	0.856	0.896
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.281	0.018	1,205	1,100	1.381	0.064	0.246	0.317
Current tobacco use	0.028	0.005	1,205	1,100	1.050	0.178	0.018	0.038
Want no more children	0.449	0.018	674	622	0.950	0.041	0.413	0.486
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.140	0.013	1,198	1,095	1.286	0.092	0.115	0.166
Condom use at last sex	0.658	0.038	152	137	0.977	0.057	0.583	0.733
Ever tested for HIV and received results of last test	0.693	0.016	1,205	1,100	1.231	0.024	0.661	0.726
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.016	0.004	1,202	1,101	1.109	0.251	0.008	0.024
HIV prevalence (15–59)	0.019	0.004	1,336	1,222	1.052	0.205	0.011	0.027
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.010	0.005	468	429	0.998	0.467	0.001	0.019
Male circumcision	0.712	0.017	1,205	1,100	1.284	0.024	0.679	0.746
Mobile phone ownership	0.708	0.016	1,205	1,100	1.190	0.022	0.676	0.739
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.716	0.015	1,205	1,100	1.188	0.022	0.685	0.747
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.195	0.015	1,205	1,100	1.326	0.078	0.164	0.225
WOMEN AND MEN								
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.022	0.004	2,796	2,540	1.274	0.162	0.015	0.029
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.006	0.003	1,048	955	1.116	0.438	0.001	0.012

Table B.8 Sampling errors: Northern Province sample, Rwanda DHS 2025

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
HOUSEHOLDS AND POPULATION								
Primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	0.025	0.007	8,789	8,344	2.027	0.264	0.012	0.038
Births registered with civil authority	0.963	0.008	1,056	1,002	1.328	0.008	0.947	0.979
Water available when needed	0.764	0.015	8,789	8,344	1.516	0.020	0.734	0.794
At least basic sanitation service	0.789	0.014	8,789	8,344	1.526	0.017	0.762	0.817
Using open defecation	0.017	0.003	8,789	8,344	1.083	0.160	0.012	0.023
Using a handwashing facility with soap and water	0.229	0.013	8,568	8,150	1.325	0.057	0.203	0.255
WOMEN								
No education	0.066	0.008	2,228	2,089	1.451	0.116	0.050	0.081
Secondary education or higher	0.368	0.015	2,228	2,089	1.510	0.042	0.337	0.398
Literacy	0.878	0.010	2,228	2,089	1.463	0.012	0.858	0.899
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.162	0.014	2,228	2,089	1.797	0.087	0.134	0.190
Current tobacco use	0.007	0.002	2,228	2,089	1.116	0.289	0.003	0.010
Total fertility rate (3 years)	3.431	0.136	6,276	5,889	1.155	0.040	3.160	3.702
Currently pregnant	0.043	0.004	2,228	2,089	1.034	0.103	0.034	0.052
Mean number of children ever born to women age 40–49	4.438	0.098	479	454	1.115	0.022	4.242	4.634
Median birth interval	55.089	1.638	693	656	1.280	0.030	51.812	58.366
Ideal number of children	3.119	0.033	2,216	2,078	1.303	0.011	3.053	3.185
Total wanted fertility rate (3 years)	2.717	0.122	6,276	5,889	1.155	0.045	2.474	2.961
Currently using any contraceptive method	0.761	0.013	1,237	1,173	1.089	0.017	0.734	0.787
Currently using any modern method	0.721	0.014	1,237	1,173	1.100	0.019	0.693	0.749
Currently using pill	0.055	0.007	1,237	1,173	1.081	0.127	0.041	0.069
Currently using injectables	0.134	0.011	1,237	1,173	1.178	0.085	0.111	0.157
Currently using implants	0.459	0.016	1,237	1,173	1.117	0.035	0.427	0.491
Currently using male condom	0.026	0.004	1,237	1,173	0.976	0.170	0.017	0.035
Currently using any traditional method	0.040	0.007	1,237	1,173	1.237	0.173	0.026	0.054
Unmet need for spacing	0.025	0.005	1,237	1,173	1.093	0.194	0.015	0.035
Unmet need for limiting	0.029	0.005	1,237	1,173	1.045	0.171	0.019	0.039
Unmet need total	0.054	0.007	1,237	1,173	1.098	0.130	0.040	0.069
Demand satisfied by modern methods (married women)	0.884	0.011	1,005	956	1.135	0.013	0.861	0.907
Demand satisfied by modern methods (all women)	0.877	0.011	1,204	1,142	1.129	0.012	0.856	0.898
Participation in decision making about family planning	0.959	0.008	1,237	1,173	1.385	0.008	0.943	0.975
Not exposed to any of the eight media sources	0.148	0.010	2,228	2,089	1.318	0.067	0.128	0.168
Neonatal mortality (last 0–9 years)	13.530	2.804	2,141	2,034	1.075	0.207	7.922	19.138
Postneonatal mortality (last 0–9 years)	8.295	2.385	2,150	2,046	1.293	0.288	3.525	13.066
Infant mortality (last 0–9 years)	21.825	3.576	2,141	2,034	1.116	0.164	14.674	28.977
Child mortality (last 0–9 years)	8.259	1.900	2,149	2,051	1.023	0.230	4.460	12.058
Under-5 mortality (last 0–9 years)	29.904	3.998	2,146	2,039	1.080	0.134	21.908	37.900
Stillbirth rate	3.478	1.856	1,062	1,007	1.037	0.534	0.000	7.191
Early neonatal mortality rate	12.424	3.297	1,059	1,005	0.980	0.265	5.829	19.019
Perinatal mortality rate	15.874	3.727	1,062	1,007	0.967	0.235	8.420	23.328
Received ANC from a skilled provider	0.869	0.013	414	390	0.809	0.015	0.842	0.896
4+ ANC visits	0.760	0.021	414	390	0.994	0.027	0.719	0.802
8+ ANC visits	0.188	0.019	414	390	1.008	0.103	0.149	0.226
Took any iron-containing supplements	0.915	0.015	414	390	1.065	0.016	0.885	0.944
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.799	0.024	414	390	1.193	0.029	0.752	0.846
Delivered in a health facility (live births)	0.996	0.003	420	397	0.950	0.003	0.990	1.000
Delivered by a skilled provider (live births)	0.996	0.003	420	397	0.950	0.003	0.990	1.000
Delivered by C-section (live births)	0.221	0.021	420	397	1.023	0.096	0.179	0.264
Women with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.730	0.027	414	390	1.237	0.037	0.676	0.784
Newborns with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.764	0.026	414	390	1.266	0.035	0.711	0.817
Any problem accessing health care	0.318	0.017	2,228	2,089	1.711	0.053	0.284	0.352
Ever had a vaccination card	0.959	0.017	214	210	1.293	0.018	0.924	0.993
Received BCG vaccination	0.984	0.009	214	210	1.032	0.009	0.967	1.000
Received DPT-HepB-Hib vaccination (3 doses)	0.985	0.009	214	210	1.043	0.009	0.968	1.000
Received pneumococcal vaccination (3 doses)	0.981	0.009	214	210	0.978	0.009	0.963	0.999
Received measles vaccination	0.980	0.010	214	210	1.029	0.010	0.960	0.999
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (12–23 months)	0.894	0.022	214	210	1.052	0.024	0.851	0.938
Received measles/measles-rubella 2 vaccination (24–35 months)	0.960	0.013	202	189	0.972	0.014	0.933	0.987
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (24–35 months)	0.869	0.023	202	189	0.965	0.027	0.823	0.915
Received HPV vaccination (2 doses) women 15–17	0.728	0.036	254	239	1.278	0.049	0.657	0.800
Sought treatment for diarrhoea	0.578	0.048	123	124	1.107	0.084	0.481	0.674
Treated with ORS	0.387	0.050	123	124	1.179	0.130	0.286	0.488
Height-for-age (–3 SD)	0.054	0.008	1,062	1,008	1.111	0.145	0.038	0.070
Height-for-age (–2 SD)	0.327	0.017	1,062	1,008	1.152	0.053	0.292	0.361
Weight-for-height (–2 SD)	0.006	0.002	1,061	1,007	0.958	0.391	0.001	0.010
Weight-for-height (+2 SD)	0.060	0.007	1,061	1,007	1.013	0.123	0.045	0.075
Weight-for-age (–2 SD)	0.042	0.007	1,062	1,008	1.045	0.157	0.029	0.055
Exclusive breastfeeding	0.884	0.041	84	72	1.160	0.046	0.802	0.965
Minimum dietary diversity (children 6–23 months)	0.397	0.030	319	308	1.101	0.076	0.337	0.457
Body mass index (BMI) <18.5	0.024	0.006	826	779	1.092	0.240	0.013	0.036
Body mass index (BMI) ≥25	0.299	0.021	826	779	1.344	0.072	0.256	0.342
Body mass index-for-age (–2 SD)	0.005	0.005	216	202	1.042	1.003	0.000	0.015
Body mass index-for-age (+1 SD)	0.296	0.033	216	202	1.074	0.113	0.230	0.363
Minimum dietary diversity (15–49)	0.314	0.015	2,228	2,089	1.500	0.047	0.285	0.344

Continued...

Table B.8—Continued

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
Child had fever in last 2 weeks	0.166	0.017	1,030	979	1.449	0.102	0.133	0.200
Child had blood taken from finger/heel	0.381	0.041	164	163	1.114	0.108	0.299	0.463
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.120	0.010	2,214	2,076	1.481	0.085	0.100	0.140
Condom use at last sex	0.479	0.036	201	188	1.022	0.075	0.407	0.551
Ever tested for HIV and received the results of the last test	0.764	0.010	2,228	2,089	1.114	0.013	0.744	0.784
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.013	0.003	1,105	1,026	1.004	0.263	0.006	0.020
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.002	0.002	412	381	0.671	0.708	0.000	0.005
Mobile phone ownership	0.638	0.016	2,228	2,089	1.564	0.025	0.606	0.670
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.639	0.016	2,228	2,089	1.526	0.024	0.608	0.670
Participate in decision making (all three decisions)	0.589	0.021	1,237	1,173	1.525	0.036	0.546	0.632
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.259	0.014	2,228	2,089	1.513	0.054	0.230	0.287
Make own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive care	0.576	0.019	1,237	1,173	1.358	0.033	0.538	0.614
Experienced physical violence since age 15 by any perpetrator	0.288	0.020	844	779	1.271	0.069	0.248	0.327
Experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator ever	0.144	0.015	844	779	1.217	0.102	0.115	0.174
Experienced sexual violence by any non-intimate partner	0.092	0.013	844	779	1.296	0.140	0.066	0.118
Experienced physical or sexual violence by the current or most recent husband or intimate partner ever	0.240	0.017	757	670	1.104	0.071	0.206	0.274
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner in the last 12 months	0.247	0.018	757	670	1.127	0.072	0.212	0.282
MEN								
No education	0.060	0.010	927	862	1.256	0.164	0.040	0.079
Secondary education or higher	0.337	0.024	927	862	1.567	0.072	0.289	0.386
Literacy	0.877	0.015	927	862	1.427	0.018	0.846	0.908
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.310	0.022	927	862	1.427	0.070	0.267	0.353
Current tobacco use	0.050	0.008	927	862	1.098	0.158	0.034	0.065
Want no more children	0.409	0.024	513	486	1.082	0.058	0.362	0.456
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.119	0.012	918	853	1.133	0.102	0.095	0.143
Condom use at last sex	0.744	0.037	123	108	0.929	0.049	0.670	0.817
Ever tested for HIV and received results of last test	0.745	0.016	927	862	1.133	0.022	0.712	0.777
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.007	0.003	916	864	1.035	0.422	0.001	0.012
HIV prevalence (15–59)	0.010	0.003	1,029	971	1.021	0.324	0.003	0.016
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.006	0.004	360	342	1.056	0.712	0.000	0.015
Male circumcision	0.656	0.021	927	862	1.324	0.032	0.614	0.697
Mobile phone ownership	0.766	0.015	927	862	1.110	0.020	0.735	0.797
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.751	0.015	927	862	1.050	0.020	0.721	0.781
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.097	0.011	927	862	1.137	0.114	0.075	0.119
WOMEN AND MEN								
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.010	0.003	2,021	1,890	1.170	0.258	0.005	0.015
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.004	0.002	772	722	0.967	0.547	0.000	0.008

Table B.9 Sampling errors: Eastern Province sample, Rwanda DHS 2025

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
HOUSEHOLDS AND POPULATION								
Primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	0.030	0.004	14,480	15,568	1.295	0.131	0.022	0.038
Births registered with civil authority	0.945	0.007	1,935	2,087	1.224	0.007	0.931	0.958
Water available when needed	0.538	0.016	14,480	15,568	1.705	0.029	0.506	0.569
At least basic sanitation service	0.705	0.012	14,480	15,568	1.487	0.017	0.681	0.729
Using open defecation	0.024	0.003	14,480	15,568	1.285	0.144	0.017	0.031
Using a handwashing facility with soap and water	0.237	0.011	13,033	14,059	1.249	0.044	0.216	0.258
WOMEN								
No education	0.066	0.005	3,652	3,868	1.296	0.081	0.056	0.077
Secondary education or higher	0.336	0.011	3,652	3,868	1.401	0.033	0.314	0.358
Literacy	0.865	0.008	3,652	3,868	1.414	0.009	0.849	0.881
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.223	0.012	3,652	3,868	1.723	0.053	0.199	0.246
Current tobacco use	0.013	0.002	3,652	3,868	1.167	0.172	0.008	0.017
Total fertility rate (3 years)	4.032	0.116	10,200	10,794	1.179	0.029	3.801	4.264
Currently pregnant	0.053	0.004	3,652	3,868	1.093	0.076	0.045	0.061
Mean number of children ever born to women age 40–49	4.893	0.078	819	878	1.048	0.016	4.736	5.049
Median birth interval	48.716	0.907	1,305	1,411	1.349	0.019	46.903	50.530
Ideal number of children	3.229	0.026	3,612	3,828	1.238	0.008	3.176	3.282
Total wanted fertility rate (3 years)	3.076	0.092	10,200	10,794	1.056	0.030	2.892	3.259
Currently using any contraceptive method	0.681	0.011	1,905	2,053	1.002	0.016	0.660	0.703
Currently using any modern method	0.640	0.011	1,905	2,053	1.016	0.017	0.617	0.662
Currently using pill	0.070	0.007	1,905	2,053	1.113	0.093	0.057	0.083
Currently using injectables	0.148	0.010	1,905	2,053	1.226	0.067	0.128	0.168
Currently using implants	0.343	0.012	1,905	2,053	1.074	0.034	0.319	0.366
Currently using male condom	0.024	0.004	1,905	2,053	1.049	0.155	0.016	0.031
Currently using any traditional method	0.042	0.004	1,905	2,053	0.943	0.104	0.033	0.050
Unmet need for spacing	0.037	0.004	1,905	2,053	0.995	0.117	0.028	0.045
Unmet need for limiting	0.059	0.005	1,905	2,053	0.998	0.091	0.048	0.070
Unmet need total	0.096	0.007	1,905	2,053	1.046	0.074	0.082	0.110
Demand satisfied by modern methods (married women)	0.823	0.010	1,470	1,595	1.041	0.013	0.803	0.844
Demand satisfied by modern methods (all women)	0.819	0.010	1,891	2,043	1.127	0.012	0.799	0.838
Participation in decision making about family planning	0.934	0.006	1,905	2,053	1.127	0.007	0.922	0.947
Not exposed to any of the eight media sources	0.236	0.008	3,652	3,868	1.159	0.035	0.220	0.252
Neonatal mortality (last 0–9 years)	21.604	2.479	3,767	4,101	1.003	0.115	16.647	26.561
Postneonatal mortality (last 0–9 years)	12.778	1.853	3,769	4,102	1.031	0.145	9.072	16.483
Infant mortality (last 0–9 years)	34.382	3.267	3,767	4,101	1.067	0.095	27.848	40.916
Child mortality (last 0–9 years)	12.619	2.056	3,737	4,058	1.079	0.163	8.507	16.730
Under-5 mortality (last 0–9 years)	46.567	3.933	3,775	4,110	1.090	0.084	38.700	54.433
Stillbirth rate	11.409	2.690	1,945	2,100	1.135	0.236	6.029	16.789
Early neonatal mortality rate	15.598	3.207	1,926	2,078	1.094	0.206	9.183	22.012
Perinatal mortality rate	26.839	4.275	1,945	2,100	1.112	0.159	18.290	35.389
Received ANC from a skilled provider	0.952	0.008	782	851	1.099	0.009	0.936	0.969
4+ ANC visits	0.774	0.018	782	851	1.227	0.024	0.738	0.811
8+ ANC visits	0.184	0.016	782	851	1.120	0.084	0.153	0.215
Took any iron-containing supplements	0.881	0.014	782	851	1.214	0.016	0.853	0.910
Mothers protected against tetanus for last birth	0.709	0.020	782	851	1.232	0.028	0.669	0.749
Delivered in a health facility (live births)	0.975	0.007	806	876	1.343	0.008	0.960	0.990
Delivered by a skilled provider (live births)	0.978	0.007	806	876	1.402	0.007	0.964	0.993
Delivered by C-section (live births)	0.219	0.018	806	876	1.172	0.080	0.184	0.254
Women with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.654	0.019	782	851	1.118	0.029	0.616	0.692
Newborns with postnatal check during first 2 days	0.706	0.019	782	851	1.159	0.027	0.668	0.743
Any problem accessing health care	0.530	0.016	3,652	3,868	1.987	0.031	0.497	0.563
Ever had a vaccination card	0.870	0.031	389	425	1.851	0.036	0.807	0.933
Received BCG vaccination	0.980	0.008	389	425	1.182	0.009	0.963	0.996
Received DPT-HepB-Hib vaccination (3 doses)	0.965	0.012	389	425	1.279	0.012	0.942	0.989
Received pneumococcal vaccination (3 doses)	0.955	0.014	389	425	1.366	0.015	0.927	0.984
Received measles vaccination	0.958	0.011	389	425	1.127	0.012	0.935	0.981
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (12–23 months)	0.735	0.028	389	425	1.228	0.038	0.680	0.790
Received measles/measles-rubella 2 vaccination (24–35 months)	0.899	0.023	356	382	1.454	0.026	0.853	0.946
Fully vaccinated according to national schedule (24–35 months)	0.752	0.031	356	382	1.311	0.041	0.691	0.813
Received HPV vaccination (2 doses) women 15–17	0.687	0.024	508	541	1.166	0.035	0.639	0.735
Sought treatment for diarrhoea	0.676	0.029	318	349	1.103	0.043	0.618	0.734
Treated with ORS	0.357	0.031	318	349	1.124	0.088	0.294	0.420
Height-for-age (–3 SD)	0.073	0.007	1,941	2,094	1.091	0.092	0.059	0.086
Height-for-age (–2 SD)	0.258	0.013	1,941	2,094	1.295	0.052	0.231	0.284
Weight-for-height (–2 SD)	0.011	0.002	1,942	2,094	0.973	0.208	0.006	0.016
Weight-for-height (+2 SD)	0.046	0.005	1,942	2,094	1.100	0.116	0.036	0.057
Weight-for-age (–2 SD)	0.073	0.007	1,943	2,096	1.157	0.098	0.058	0.087
Exclusive breastfeeding	0.813	0.034	192	212	1.216	0.042	0.745	0.882
Minimum dietary diversity (children 6–23 months)	0.412	0.020	564	612	0.986	0.050	0.371	0.453
Body mass index (BMI) <18.5	0.033	0.006	1,299	1,381	1.141	0.171	0.022	0.044
Body mass index (BMI) ≥25	0.354	0.015	1,299	1,381	1.134	0.043	0.324	0.384
Body mass index-for-age (–2 SD)	0.003	0.003	423	444	1.043	0.996	0.000	0.008
Body mass index-for-age (+1 SD)	0.223	0.022	423	444	1.062	0.097	0.180	0.266
Minimum dietary diversity (15–49)	0.266	0.011	3,652	3,868	1.450	0.040	0.245	0.287

Continued...

Table B.9—Continued

Variable	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un- weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
Child had fever in last 2 weeks	0.188	0.011	1,857	2,004	1.186	0.059	0.166	0.210
Child had blood taken from finger/heel	0.455	0.034	342	377	1.245	0.075	0.387	0.523
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.146	0.007	3,643	3,861	1.280	0.051	0.131	0.161
Condom use at last sex	0.415	0.026	450	466	1.102	0.062	0.364	0.466
Ever tested for HIV and received the results of the last test	0.763	0.007	3,652	3,868	0.944	0.009	0.750	0.776
Stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with HIV in community settings	0.719	0.050	63	62	0.877	0.070	0.619	0.819
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.025	0.004	1,838	1,926	1.063	0.154	0.018	0.033
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.008	0.004	737	776	1.146	0.478	0.000	0.015
Mobile phone ownership	0.592	0.011	3,652	3,868	1.357	0.019	0.570	0.614
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.565	0.012	3,652	3,868	1.462	0.021	0.541	0.589
Participate in decision making (all three decisions)	0.586	0.013	1,905	2,053	1.194	0.023	0.559	0.613
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.323	0.010	3,652	3,868	1.310	0.031	0.303	0.344
Make own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive care	0.496	0.013	1,905	2,053	1.113	0.026	0.471	0.522
Experienced physical violence since age 15 by any perpetrator	0.370	0.015	1,345	1,409	1.110	0.040	0.341	0.399
Experienced sexual violence by any perpetrator ever	0.225	0.013	1,345	1,409	1.140	0.058	0.199	0.251
Experienced sexual violence by any non-intimate partner	0.110	0.009	1,345	1,409	1.087	0.085	0.091	0.128
Experienced physical or sexual violence by the current or most recent husband or intimate partner ever	0.323	0.014	1,230	1,262	1.068	0.044	0.294	0.351
Experienced emotional or physical or sexual violence by any husband or intimate partner in the last 12 months	0.336	0.017	1,230	1,262	1.275	0.051	0.301	0.370
MEN								
No education	0.062	0.008	1,495	1,591	1.301	0.131	0.046	0.078
Secondary education or higher	0.308	0.014	1,495	1,591	1.201	0.047	0.280	0.337
Literacy	0.865	0.011	1,495	1,591	1.211	0.012	0.843	0.886
Use of the internet in last 12 months	0.302	0.015	1,495	1,591	1.234	0.049	0.272	0.331
Current tobacco use	0.065	0.007	1,495	1,591	1.152	0.113	0.050	0.080
Want no more children	0.418	0.020	747	800	1.084	0.047	0.379	0.457
Discriminatory attitudes towards people with HIV	0.106	0.009	1,491	1,586	1.169	0.088	0.087	0.125
Condom use at last sex	0.683	0.032	249	254	1.093	0.047	0.619	0.748
Ever tested for HIV and received results of last test	0.680	0.014	1,495	1,591	1.146	0.020	0.652	0.708
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.013	0.003	1,489	1,593	1.108	0.253	0.006	0.019
HIV prevalence (15–59)	0.016	0.003	1,660	1,775	1.058	0.206	0.009	0.022
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.005	0.003	620	668	0.942	0.546	0.000	0.010
Male circumcision	0.742	0.015	1,495	1,591	1.285	0.020	0.713	0.771
Mobile phone ownership	0.691	0.014	1,495	1,591	1.138	0.020	0.664	0.718
Have and use a bank account or mobile phone for financial transactions	0.691	0.012	1,495	1,591	1.002	0.017	0.667	0.715
Agree with at least one specified reason a husband is justified in wife beating	0.161	0.011	1,495	1,591	1.199	0.071	0.138	0.184
WOMEN AND MEN								
HIV prevalence (15–49)	0.020	0.003	3,327	3,518	1.145	0.140	0.014	0.025
HIV prevalence (15–24)	0.006	0.002	1,357	1,444	1.084	0.367	0.002	0.011

Table B.10 Sampling errors for ECDI2030 according to background characteristics, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Unweighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
Sex								
Male	0.691	0.012	1,932	1,948	1.179	0.018	0.666	0.716
Female	0.740	0.012	2,018	2,016	1.233	0.016	0.716	0.764
Residence								
Urban	0.726	0.020	1,385	1,193	1.640	0.027	0.686	0.765
Rural	0.711	0.011	2,565	2,771	1.216	0.015	0.690	0.733
Province								
City of Kigali	0.685	0.036	428	557	1.600	0.053	0.613	0.757
Southern Province	0.742	0.017	935	855	1.178	0.023	0.708	0.776
Western Province	0.706	0.019	986	902	1.286	0.026	0.669	0.744
Northern Province	0.772	0.020	599	573	1.182	0.026	0.731	0.812
Eastern Province	0.688	0.018	1,002	1,076	1.237	0.026	0.652	0.725
Age (in months)								
24–35	0.728	0.014	1,330	1,332	1.114	0.019	0.701	0.755
36–47	0.738	0.015	1,385	1,385	1.241	0.020	0.708	0.767
48–59	0.678	0.015	1,235	1,247	1.104	0.022	0.648	0.707
Mother's education								
No education	0.650	0.028	283	289	0.996	0.043	0.594	0.707
Primary	0.682	0.012	2,378	2,429	1.247	0.017	0.658	0.706
Secondary	0.790	0.014	1,075	1,043	1.127	0.018	0.762	0.818
More than secondary	0.828	0.028	214	203	1.080	0.034	0.772	0.884
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	0.609	0.019	856	855	1.141	0.031	0.571	0.648
Second	0.681	0.021	763	786	1.259	0.031	0.639	0.724
Middle	0.739	0.018	778	804	1.164	0.025	0.703	0.776
Fourth	0.756	0.018	748	747	1.113	0.023	0.721	0.791
Highest	0.805	0.019	805	772	1.391	0.024	0.766	0.844
Total	0.716	0.010	3,950	3,964	1.338	0.013	0.696	0.735

Table B.11 Sampling errors: Adult and maternal mortality rates, Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Value (R)	Standard error (SE)	Number of cases		Design effect (DEFT)	Relative error (SE/R)	Confidence limits	
			Un-weighted (N)	Weighted (WN)			R-2SE	R+2SE
WOMEN								
Adult mortality rate								
15–19	0.963	0.237	19,220	19,162	1.037	0.246	0.489	1.436
20–24	0.834	0.224	22,201	22,221	1.156	0.268	0.387	1.282
25–29	0.947	0.212	21,125	21,208	1.004	0.224	0.523	1.371
30–34	1.553	0.287	20,300	20,398	1.010	0.185	0.978	2.128
35–39	2.628	0.418	18,466	18,498	1.111	0.159	1.793	3.463
40–44	2.727	0.548	13,208	13,139	1.207	0.201	1.632	3.823
45–49	3.683	0.681	7,874	7,826	0.998	0.185	2.322	5.044
15–49 (age-adjusted)	1.708	0.132	122,393	122,450	1.080	0.078	1.443	1.973
Adult mortality probability								
35Q15 2025	65	5	122,393	122,450	1.149	0.077	55	74
35Q15 2019–20	71	6	127,310	127,787	1.236	0.081	60	83
Maternal mortality rate								
15–19	0.000	0.000	19,220	19,162	na	na	0.000	0.000
20–24	0.046	0.046	22,201	22,221	1.013	1.000	0.000	0.138
25–29	0.192	0.100	21,125	21,208	1.048	0.520	0.000	0.391
30–34	0.357	0.132	20,300	20,398	0.998	0.370	0.093	0.621
35–39	0.287	0.129	18,466	18,498	1.036	0.450	0.029	0.545
40–44	0.231	0.134	13,208	13,139	1.007	0.578	0.000	0.498
45–49	0.143	0.143	7,874	7,826	1.059	1.001	0.000	0.429
15–49 (age-adjusted)	0.162	0.036	122,393	122,450	1.025	0.219	0.091	0.233
Maternal mortality ratio (MMR) 2025	149	33	122,393	122,450	1.025	0.219	84	215
Maternal mortality ratio (MMR) 2019–20	203	39	127,310	127,787	1.001	0.192	125	281
Pregnancy-related mortality ratio (PRMR) 2025	172	35	122,393	122,450	1.020	0.201	103	242
Pregnancy-related mortality ratio (PRMR) 2019–20	226	41	127,310	127,787	1.019	0.182	143	308
MEN								
Adult mortality rate								
15–19	1.528	0.318	18,912	18,860	1.120	0.208	0.891	2.165
20–24	2.012	0.374	21,039	21,164	1.185	0.186	1.264	2.761
25–29	2.296	0.359	20,456	20,599	1.078	0.157	1.577	3.014
30–34	2.905	0.420	19,967	19,979	1.083	0.144	2.066	3.744
35–39	3.175	0.452	18,331	18,324	1.078	0.142	2.270	4.079
40–44	3.346	0.543	12,818	12,835	1.066	0.162	2.261	4.432
45–49	4.547	0.840	7,114	7,124	1.054	0.185	2.866	6.227
15–49 (age-adjusted)	2.628	0.188	118,636	118,885	1.091	0.072	2.251	3.004
Adult mortality probability								
35Q15 2025	94	7	118,636	118,885	1.196	0.070	81	108
35Q15 2019–20	124	8	120,867	120,940	1.219	0.068	107	141
na = Not available								

na = Not available

DATA QUALITY TABLES

Table C.1 Household age distribution

Single-year age distribution of the de facto household population by sex (weighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Age	Male		Female		Age	Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	763	2.9	696	2.4	42	303	1.2	344	1.2
1	723	2.8	691	2.4	43	338	1.3	408	1.4
2	718	2.7	755	2.6	44	240	0.9	280	1.0
3	757	2.9	783	2.7	45	271	1.0	332	1.1
4	719	2.8	732	2.5	46	199	0.8	260	0.9
5	707	2.7	668	2.3	47	202	0.8	279	1.0
6	803	3.1	727	2.5	48	182	0.7	224	0.8
7	809	3.1	772	2.6	49	165	0.6	256	0.9
8	756	2.9	754	2.6	50	161	0.6	156	0.5
9	747	2.9	736	2.5	51	175	0.7	254	0.9
10	745	2.9	772	2.6	52	165	0.6	203	0.7
11	689	2.6	701	2.4	53	154	0.6	216	0.7
12	680	2.6	711	2.4	54	115	0.4	163	0.6
13	671	2.6	676	2.3	55	133	0.5	196	0.7
14	600	2.3	570	1.9	56	108	0.4	140	0.5
15	570	2.2	583	2.0	57	131	0.5	171	0.6
16	606	2.3	604	2.1	58	98	0.4	122	0.4
17	545	2.1	576	2.0	59	116	0.4	133	0.5
18	565	2.2	596	2.0	60	101	0.4	156	0.5
19	513	2.0	575	2.0	61	122	0.5	148	0.5
20	513	2.0	544	1.9	62	144	0.6	147	0.5
21	448	1.7	536	1.8	63	109	0.4	175	0.6
22	426	1.6	517	1.8	64	83	0.3	131	0.4
23	409	1.6	501	1.7	65	121	0.5	174	0.6
24	318	1.2	417	1.4	66	93	0.4	103	0.4
25	443	1.7	495	1.7	67	84	0.3	121	0.4
26	288	1.1	373	1.3	68	58	0.2	106	0.4
27	262	1.0	341	1.2	69	79	0.3	100	0.3
28	311	1.2	381	1.3	70	78	0.3	102	0.3
29	330	1.3	459	1.6	71	73	0.3	99	0.3
30	350	1.3	361	1.2	72	53	0.2	90	0.3
31	368	1.4	410	1.4	73	67	0.3	94	0.3
32	299	1.1	365	1.2	74	25	0.1	45	0.2
33	316	1.2	386	1.3	75	60	0.2	86	0.3
34	282	1.1	370	1.3	76	24	0.1	56	0.2
35	335	1.3	426	1.5	77	31	0.1	37	0.1
36	321	1.2	383	1.3	78	16	0.1	40	0.1
37	321	1.2	403	1.4	79	20	0.1	40	0.1
38	278	1.1	332	1.1	80+	161	0.6	330	1.1
39	298	1.1	367	1.3	Don't know	1	0.0	7	0.0
40	354	1.4	357	1.2					
41	310	1.2	356	1.2	Total	26,127	100.0	29,286	100.0

Note: The de facto population includes all residents and nonresidents who stayed in the household the night before the interview.

Figure C.1 Population pyramid

Percent distribution of the household population

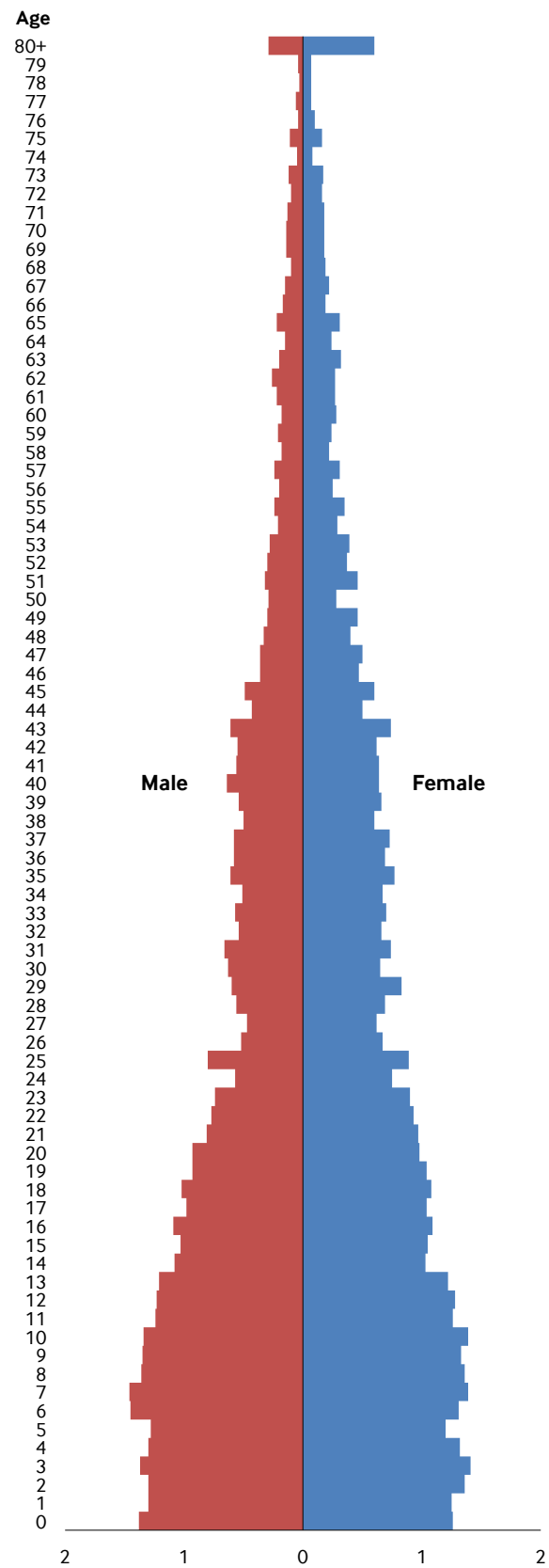


Table C.2.1 Age distribution of eligible and interviewed women

De facto household population of women age 10–54, number and percent distribution of interviewed women age 15–49, and percentage of eligible women who were interviewed (weighted), by 5-year age groups, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age group	Household population of women age 10–54	Interviewed women age 15–49		Percentage of eligible women interviewed
	Number	Number	Percentage	
10–14	3,430	na	na	na
15–19	2,933	2,903	20.3	99.0
20–24	2,516	2,494	17.5	99.1
25–29	2,049	2,030	14.2	99.1
30–34	1,893	1,878	13.1	99.2
35–39	1,911	1,895	13.3	99.1
40–44	1,744	1,739	12.2	99.7
45–49	1,351	1,346	9.4	99.6
50–54	992	na	na	na
15–49	14,398	14,285	100.0	99.2
Ratios				
10–14 to 15–19	117	na	na	na
50–54 to 45–49	73	na	na	na

Note: The de facto population includes all residents and nonresidents who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Weights for both household population of women and interviewed women are household weights. Age is based on the Household Questionnaire. na = Not applicable

Table C.2.2 Age distribution of eligible and interviewed men

De facto household population of men age 10–64, number and percent distribution of interviewed men age 15–59, and percentage of eligible men who were interviewed (weighted), by 5-year age groups, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age group	Household population of men age 10–64	Interviewed men age 15–59		Percentage of eligible men interviewed
	Number	Number	Percentage	
10–14	1,693	na	na	na
15–19	1,372	1,346	20.4	98.1
20–24	1,053	1,029	15.6	97.8
25–29	787	763	11.6	96.9
30–34	787	773	11.7	98.1
35–39	796	787	11.9	98.9
40–44	746	736	11.1	98.7
45–49	515	507	7.7	98.4
50–54	383	377	5.7	98.6
55–59	287	287	4.4	100.0
60–64	274	na	na	na
15–59	6,727	6,606	100.0	98.2
Ratios				
10–14 to 15–19	123	na	na	na
60–64 to 55–59	95	na	na	na

Note: The de facto population includes all residents and nonresidents who stayed in the household the night before the interview. Weights for both household population of men and interviewed men are household weights. Age is based on the household questionnaire. na = Not applicable

Table C.3 Age displacement at ages 14/15

Number of women and men age 12–18 listed in the household schedule by single-year age and age ratio 15/14, according to region (weighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Region	Age							Total age 12–18	Age ratio (age 15/ age 14)
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
WOMEN									
City of Kigali	71	65	54	65	67	75	94	490	120.3
Southern Province	191	163	139	131	171	118	130	1,044	94.8
Western Province	175	182	133	133	109	129	116	977	100.5
Northern Province	84	90	87	83	91	79	88	602	95.5
Eastern Province	221	198	182	192	193	203	202	1,392	105.2
Total	742	699	595	604	631	604	630	4,505	101.7
MEN									
City of Kigali	60	65	52	42	48	63	74	404	80.2
Southern Province	170	169	160	134	177	137	148	1,095	83.5
Western Province	131	163	164	141	138	121	120	980	85.9
Northern Province	106	105	79	71	98	78	88	624	89.1
Eastern Province	233	189	164	209	168	176	170	1,311	127.5
Total	700	692	620	596	629	575	600	4,413	96.2

Table C.4 Age displacement at ages 49/50

Number of women and men age 47–53 listed in the household schedule by single-year age and age ratio 50/49, according to region (weighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Region	Age							Total age 47–53	Age ratio (age 50/ age 49)
	47	48	49	50	51	52	53		
WOMEN									
City of Kigali	28	24	32	12	25	24	15	159	39.2
Southern Province	62	58	74	39	63	52	59	407	52.0
Western Province	57	39	42	33	61	44	50	325	79.2
Northern Province	39	38	33	28	49	31	39	257	86.0
Eastern Province	95	67	77	45	60	54	57	455	58.3
Total	280	227	257	157	258	206	219	1,604	61.0
MEN									
City of Kigali	30	44	23	25	20	18	15	175	109.0
Southern Province	47	51	48	39	48	41	47	322	81.4
Western Province	50	24	22	32	35	31	31	225	140.7
Northern Province	27	21	33	26	29	35	14	185	78.6
Eastern Province	61	52	49	48	50	48	54	362	99.2
Total	215	192	175	170	182	174	161	1,270	97.0

Table C.5 Pregnancy outcomes by years preceding the survey

Number of pregnancy outcomes, percentage with year and month of birth given or end of pregnancy given, sex ratio at birth of live births, and ratio by years preceding the survey, according to living children, dead children, stillbirths, miscarriages/abortions, and total pregnancy outcomes (weighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Years preceding survey	Number of pregnancy outcomes					Percentage with year and month of birth given or end of pregnancy given					Sex ratio at birth of live births ¹			Ratio of years preceding survey ²				
	Living children	Dead children	Still-births	Mis-carriages/abortions	Total	Living children	Dead children	Still-births	Mis-carriages/abortions	Total	Living children	Dead children	Total	Living children	Dead children	Still-births	Mis-carriages/abortions	Total
0	1,453	39	17	201	1,710	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	109.2	117.1	109.4	na	na	na	na	na
1	1,404	43	15	162	1,624	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	103.6	117.5	104.0	99.2	95.4	84.2	97.4	98.8
2	1,377	51	18	132	1,579	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	96.1	101.2	96.3	95.1	118.5	109.2	90.1	95.4
3	1,491	43	19	130	1,684	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.2	85.2	98.7	110.2	97.2	121.3	86.1	107.6
4	1,331	38	13	171	1,552	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.3	99.9	99.6	187.0	101.3	93.3	73.1	63.2	124.7	94.9
5	1,361	61	21	144	1,587	100.0	100.0	94.5	100.0	99.9	108.7	157.1	110.4	99.3	133.3	174.0	105.8	101.4
6	1,411	53	12	101	1,577	99.9	98.1	100.0	87.0	99.1	113.5	182.3	115.4	102.8	79.7	55.3	86.8	100.0
7	1,385	73	21	88	1,567	99.7	100.0	100.0	96.7	99.5	105.6	109.4	105.8	100.0	137.2	155.3	91.3	101.2
8	1,359	53	15	93	1,520	99.6	92.6	92.3	94.0	99.0	102.5	169.0	104.4	101.2	73.0	71.9	112.2	100.0
9	1,302	71	22	78	1,473	99.9	95.7	95.4	92.0	99.2	102.8	142.9	104.6	98.5	118.0	128.3	101.3	99.8
0–4	7,056	215	82	796	8,149	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.8	100.0	101.5	114.9	101.9	na	na	na	na	na
5–9	6,818	310	91	503	7,723	99.8	97.4	96.3	94.5	99.3	106.6	146.3	108.1	na	na	na	na	na
10–14	5,631	297	82	295	6,305	99.7	94.6	95.0	93.2	99.1	100.4	130.2	101.7	na	na	na	na	na
15–19	4,339	318	93	182	4,932	99.8	94.7	94.6	92.5	99.1	100.8	124.5	102.3	na	na	na	na	na
20+	3,440	644	94	212	4,390	99.5	96.7	92.1	89.2	98.5	101.2	121.3	104.1	na	na	na	na	na
All	27,283	1,786	442	1,988	31,500	99.8	96.5	95.5	95.7	99.3	102.4	126.5	103.7	na	na	na	na	na

na = Not applicable

¹ $(B_m/B_f) \times 100$, where B_m and B_f are the numbers of male and female births, respectively

² $[2P_x / (P_{x-1} + P_{x+1})] \times 100$, where P_x is the number of pregnancy outcomes in year x preceding the survey

Table C.6 Completeness of reporting

Percentage of observations missing information for selected demographic and health questions (weighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Subject	Reference group	Percentage with information missing	Number of cases
Date of live birth or stillbirth (last 15 years)	Live births or stillbirths in the 15 years preceding the survey		
Missing day only		0.19	20,583
Missing month, but year reported		0.28	20,583
Missing year		0.00	20,583
Date of live birth or stillbirth (last 5 years)	Live births or stillbirths in the 5 years preceding the survey		
Missing day only		0.03	7,353
Missing month, but year reported		0.00	7,353
Missing year		0.00	7,353
Date of birth of women	Women age 15–49		
Missing month, but year reported		0.10	14,283
Missing year		0.00	14,283
Date of birth of men	Men age 15–49		
Missing month, but year reported		1.02	6,548
Missing year		0.00	6,548
Diarrhea in last 2 weeks	Living children age 0–59 months	0.84	7,056
Anthropometry of children	Living children age 0–59 months (from the Biomarker Questionnaire)		
Height		0.55	7,341
Weight		0.52	7,341
Height or weight		0.55	7,341
Anthropometry of women	Women age 15–49 (from the Biomarker Questionnaire)		
Height		1.42	7,249
Weight		1.41	7,249
Height or weight		1.42	7,249
Anthropometry of men	Men age 15–49 (from the Biomarker Questionnaire)		
Height		2.63	6,058
Weight		2.63	6,058
Height or weight		2.63	6,058



Table C.7 Standardization exercise results from anthropometry training

Trainees' precision and accuracy for height measurements taken during the standardization exercise for anthropometry, Rwanda DHS 2025

Measurer	Standardization exercise ¹		Re-standardization exercise ¹	
	Trainees' precision ²	Trainees' accuracy ²	Trainees' precision ²	Trainees' accuracy ²
Trainee 1	0.09	0.12	na	na
Trainee 2	0.11	0.12	na	na
Trainee 3	0.12	0.08	na	na
Trainee 4	0.09	0.07	na	na
Trainee 5	0.12	0.08	na	na
Trainee 6	0.14	0.08	na	na
Trainee 7	0.10	0.07	na	na
Trainee 8	0.15	0.10	na	na
Trainee 9	0.12	0.09	na	na
Trainee 10	0.07	0.05	na	na
Trainee 11	0.66	0.35	0.1	0.09
Trainee 12	0.08	0.07	na	na
Trainee 13	0.68	0.35	0.08	0.09
Trainee 14	0.08	0.07	na	na
Trainee 15	0.41	0.23	na	na
Trainee 16	0.05	0.07	na	na
Trainee 17	0.07	0.05	na	na
Trainee 18	0.06	0.07	na	na
Trainee 19	0.10	0.05	na	na
Trainee 20	0.07	0.09	na	na
Trainee 21	0.13	0.13	na	na
Trainee 22	0.16	0.12	na	na
Trainee 23	0.19	0.16	na	na
Trainee 24	0.18	0.17	na	na
Trainee 25	0.84	0.39	0.05	0.07
Trainee 26	0.12	0.06	na	na
Trainee 27	0.06	0.07	na	na
Trainee 28	0.43	0.22	na	na
Trainee 29	0.07	0.07	na	na
Trainee 30	0.09	0.09	na	na
Trainee 31	0.10	0.09	na	na
Trainee 32	0.14	0.10	na	na
Trainee 33	0.08	0.09	na	na
Trainee 34	0.09	0.10	na	na
Trainee 35	0.18	0.11	na	na
Trainee 36	0.14	0.07	na	na
Trainee 37	0.15	0.11	na	na
Trainee 38	0.40	0.21	na	na
Trainee 39	2.30	1.15	0.07	0.05
Trainee 40	0.28	0.12	na	na
Trainee 41	0.13	0.14	na	na
Trainee 42	0.07	0.07	na	na
Average	0.23	0.15	0.08	0.08

na = not applicable

¹ 10 children were measured twice for each standardization and re-standardization exercise.

² Trainees' precision and accuracy are defined in terms of a technical error of measurement (TEM), which is calculated as: $\sqrt{\sum(D^2)/(2N)}$ where D is the difference in height and N is the number of repeat measurements. An acceptable TEM according to WHO-UNICEF is a TEM of <0.6 cm for precision and <0.8 cm for accuracy.

Table C.8 Height and weight data completeness and quality for children

Among children under age 5 (age 0–59 months) who were eligible for anthropometry, percentage with incomplete or missing data for height, weight, or month or year of birth; among children with complete height and age, percentage with implausible data for height-for-age; among children with complete weight and height, percentage with implausible data for weight-for-height; and, among children with complete weight and age, percentage with implausible data for weight-for-age; and among all children under age 5 who were eligible for anthropometry, percentage with valid data for height-for-age, weight-for-height, or weight-for-age, according to background characteristics (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage with data incomplete or missing for:				Percentage with implausible data for:						Percentage with valid data for ⁸ :			
	Height ¹	Weight ²	Month or year of birth ³	Number of children	Height-for-age ⁴	Number of children with complete height and age ⁵	Weight-for-height ⁶	Number of children with complete weight and height	Weight-for-age ⁷	Number of children with complete weight and age ⁵	Height-for-age	Weight-for-height	Weight-for-age	Number of children
Age in months														
<6	0.7	0.7	0.0	722	0.4	717	0.7	717	0.0	717	98.9	98.6	99.3	722
6–11	0.5	0.5	0.0	735	0.1	731	0.0	731	0.1	731	99.3	99.5	99.3	735
12–23	0.6	0.6	0.0	1,396	0.0	1,387	0.1	1,387	0.0	1,387	99.4	99.3	99.4	1,396
24–35	0.3	0.3	0.0	1,466	0.2	1,462	0.0	1,462	0.1	1,462	99.5	99.7	99.7	1,466
36–47	0.4	0.3	0.1	1,556	0.1	1,549	0.1	1,550	0.0	1,551	99.4	99.6	99.7	1,556
48–59	0.7	0.7	0.0	1,435	0.1	1,425	0.2	1,425	0.0	1,425	99.2	99.1	99.3	1,435
0–23	0.6	0.6	0.0	2,853	0.1	2,835	0.2	2,835	0.0	2,835	99.2	99.2	99.3	2,853
24–59	0.4	0.4	0.0	4,457	0.1	4,436	0.1	4,437	0.0	4,438	99.4	99.5	99.6	4,457
Sex														
Male	0.6	0.5	0.0	3,656	0.2	3,634	0.2	3,635	0.0	3,636	99.2	99.2	99.4	3,656
Female	0.5	0.5	0.0	3,654	0.1	3,637	0.1	3,637	0.0	3,637	99.4	99.5	99.5	3,654
Mother's interview status														
Interviewed	0.3	0.3	0.0	6,717	0.1	6,696	0.1	6,696	0.0	6,697	99.6	99.5	99.7	6,717
Not interviewed but in household	13.5	13.5	0.0	89	0.0	77	0.0	77	0.0	77	86.5	86.5	86.5	89
Not interviewed and not in the household ⁹	1.0	0.8	0.2	504	0.4	498	0.0	499	0.2	499	98.4	99.0	98.8	504
Residence														
Urban	0.8	0.8	0.0	2,535	0.2	2,513	0.2	2,514	0.0	2,513	98.9	99.0	99.1	2,535
Rural	0.4	0.3	0.0	4,775	0.1	4,758	0.1	4,758	0.0	4,760	99.6	99.5	99.6	4,775
Province														
City of Kigali	1.5	1.5	0.0	753	0.0	742	0.0	742	0.0	742	98.5	98.5	98.5	753
Southern Province	0.6	0.5	0.0	1,791	0.2	1,781	0.1	1,781	0.1	1,782	99.2	99.3	99.4	1,791
Western Province	0.3	0.3	0.0	1,748	0.2	1,743	0.3	1,743	0.0	1,743	99.5	99.4	99.7	1,748
Northern Province	0.3	0.3	0.0	1,065	0.0	1,062	0.1	1,062	0.0	1,062	99.7	99.6	99.7	1,065
Eastern Province	0.5	0.4	0.1	1,953	0.1	1,943	0.1	1,944	0.1	1,944	99.4	99.4	99.5	1,953
Mother's education ¹⁰														
No education	0.2	0.0	0.0	432	0.0	431	0.0	431	0.0	432	99.8	99.8	100.0	432
Primary	0.3	0.3	0.0	4,053	0.2	4,040	0.1	4,040	0.0	4,040	99.5	99.5	99.7	4,053
Secondary	0.5	0.5	0.0	1,983	0.1	1,973	0.2	1,973	0.0	1,973	99.4	99.3	99.5	1,983
More than secondary	2.7	2.7	0.0	338	0.0	329	0.3	329	0.0	329	97.3	97.0	97.3	338
Measurer														
Measurer 1	0.0	0.0	0.0	362	0.3	362	0.0	362	0.0	362	99.7	100.0	100.0	362
Measurer 3	0.0	0.0	0.0	294	0.0	294	0.0	294	0.0	294	100.0	100.0	100.0	294
Measurer 4	0.0	0.0	0.0	45	0.0	45	0.0	45	0.0	45	100.0	100.0	100.0	45
Measurer 5	1.2	1.2	0.0	164	0.0	162	0.0	162	0.0	162	98.8	98.8	98.8	164
Measurer 6	0.6	0.6	0.0	167	0.0	166	0.0	166	0.0	166	99.4	99.4	99.4	167
Measurer 7	0.7	0.7	0.0	428	0.2	425	0.2	425	0.0	425	99.1	99.1	99.3	428
Measurer 8	0.0	0.0	0.0	6	0.0	6	0.0	6	0.0	6	100.0	100.0	100.0	6
Measurer 9	0.0	0.0	0.0	326	0.0	326	0.3	326	0.0	326	100.0	99.7	100.0	326
Measurer 10	0.0	0.0	0.0	33	0.0	33	0.0	33	0.0	33	100.0	100.0	100.0	33
Measurer 11	50.0	50.0	0.0	2	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	1	50.0	50.0	50.0	2
Measurer 12	0.3	0.3	0.0	349	0.6	348	0.0	348	0.3	348	99.1	99.7	99.4	349
Measurer 13	0.0	0.0	0.0	364	0.0	364	0.3	364	0.0	364	100.0	99.7	100.0	364
Measurer 14	0.0	0.0	0.0	21	0.0	21	0.0	21	0.0	21	100.0	100.0	100.0	21
Measurer 15	0.0	0.0	0.0	11	0.0	11	0.0	11	0.0	11	100.0	100.0	100.0	11
Measurer 16	2.4	2.4	0.0	286	0.0	279	0.4	279	0.0	279	97.6	97.2	97.6	286
Measurer 17	0.0	0.0	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	1	100.0	100.0	100.0	1
Measurer 18	0.0	0.0	0.0	149	0.7	149	0.7	149	0.0	149	99.3	99.3	100.0	149
Measurer 19	0.4	0.0	0.4	253	0.4	251	0.4	252	0.0	252	98.8	99.2	99.6	253
Measurer 20	0.0	0.0	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	1	100.0	100.0	100.0	1
Measurer 21	0.8	0.8	0.0	360	0.3	357	0.3	357	0.0	357	98.9	98.9	99.2	360
Measurer 22	0.0	0.0	0.0	153	0.0	153	0.0	153	0.0	153	100.0	100.0	100.0	153
Measurer 23	0.0	0.0	0.0	163	0.0	163	0.0	163	0.0	163	100.0	100.0	100.0	163
Measurer 24	0.2	0.2	0.0	412	0.5	411	0.2	411	0.0	411	99.3	99.5	99.8	412

Continued...

Table C.8—Continued

Background characteristic	Percentage with data incomplete or missing for:				Percentage with implausible data for:					Percentage with valid data for ⁸ :				
	Height ¹	Weight ²	Month or year of birth ³	Number of children	Height-for-age ⁴	Number of children with complete height and age ⁵	Weight-for-height ⁶	Number of children with complete weight and height	Weight-for-age ⁷	Number of children with complete weight and age ⁵	Height-for-age	Weight-for-height	Weight-for-age	Number of children
Measurer 26	0.0	0.0	0.0	26	0.0	26	0.0	26	0.0	26	100.0	100.0	100.0	26
Measurer 27	0.3	0.3	0.0	294	0.3	293	0.0	293	0.3	293	99.3	99.7	99.3	294
Measurer 28	0.7	0.7	0.0	460	0.0	457	0.2	457	0.0	457	99.3	99.1	99.3	460
Measurer 29	0.0	0.0	0.0	2	0.0	2	0.0	2	0.0	2	100.0	100.0	100.0	2
Measurer 30	0.7	0.7	0.0	146	0.0	145	0.0	145	0.0	145	99.3	99.3	99.3	146
Measurer 31	1.9	1.9	0.0	155	0.0	152	0.0	152	0.0	152	98.1	98.1	98.1	155
Measurer 32	0.0	0.0	0.0	19	0.0	19	0.0	19	0.0	19	100.0	100.0	100.0	19
Measurer 33	0.5	0.5	0.0	383	0.0	381	0.0	381	0.0	381	99.5	99.5	99.5	383
Measurer 34	0.0	0.0	0.0	5	0.0	5	0.0	5	0.0	5	100.0	100.0	100.0	5
Measurer 35	2.1	1.5	0.0	194	0.0	190	0.5	190	0.0	191	97.9	97.4	98.5	194
Measurer 36	0.0	0.0	0.0	73	0.0	73	0.0	73	0.0	73	100.0	100.0	100.0	73
Measurer 37	0.0	0.0	0.0	128	0.0	128	0.0	128	0.0	128	100.0	100.0	100.0	128
Measurer 39	0.3	0.3	0.0	346	0.0	345	0.0	345	0.0	345	99.7	99.7	99.7	346
Measurer 40	0.0	0.0	0.0	227	0.0	227	0.0	227	0.0	227	100.0	100.0	100.0	227
Measurer 41	1.7	1.7	0.0	115	0.0	113	0.0	113	0.0	113	98.3	98.3	98.3	115
Measurer 42	0.0	0.0	0.0	385	0.0	385	0.0	385	0.0	385	100.0	100.0	100.0	385
Measurer 43	0.0	0.0	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	1	100.0	100.0	100.0	1
Total	0.5	0.5	0.0	7,310	0.1	7,271	0.1	7,272	0.0	7,273	99.3	99.3	99.5	7,310

¹ Child's height in centimetres is missing, child was not present, child refused, and "other" result codes

² Child's weight in kilograms is missing, child was not present, child refused, and "other" result codes

³ Incomplete date of birth; a complete date of birth is month/day/year or month/year.

⁴ Implausible cases for height-for-age are defined as more than 6 standard deviations (SD) above or below the standard population median (Z-scores) based on the WHO Child Growth Standards among children with complete height and month/year of birth data.

⁵ Complete age is calculated from month and year of birth.

⁶ Implausible cases for weight-for-height are defined as more than 5 SD above or below the standard population median (Z-scores) based on the WHO Child Growth Standards among children with complete weight and height data.

⁷ Implausible cases for weight-for-age are defined as more than 5 SD above or 6 SD below the standard population median (Z-scores) based on the WHO Child Growth Standards among children with complete weight and month/year of birth data.

⁸ No missing data, incomplete data, or implausible data

⁹ Includes children whose mothers are deceased

¹⁰ For women who are not interviewed, information is taken from the Household Questionnaire. Excludes children whose mothers are not listed in the Household Questionnaire.

Table C.9 Height measurements from random subsample of measured children

Differences in first height measurement and second height measurement among children under age 5 (0–59 months) randomly selected and remeasured, according to region and measurer (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Region and measurer	Median difference in height measurements ¹	Percentage of height measurements with a difference >1 cm	Number of children randomly selected and remeasured
Province			
City of Kigali	0.146	3.1	127
Southern Province	0.115	2.3	264
Western Province	0.105	0.4	228
Northern Province	0.136	2.2	178
Eastern Province	0.123	2.3	258
Measurer			
Measurer 1	0.137	0.0	55
Measurer 3	0.052	0.0	47
Measurer 4	*	*	6
Measurer 5	0.150	7.1	28
Measurer 6	0.164	10.3	29
Measurer 7	0.197	4.1	49
Measurer 8	*	*	1
Measurer 9	0.115	0.0	53
Measurer 10	*	*	3
Measurer 12	0.090	0.0	49
Measurer 13	0.164	2.0	51
Measurer 14	*	*	2
Measurer 15	*	*	2
Measurer 16	0.169	6.1	49
Measurer 18	0.111	0.0	11
Measurer 19	0.119	0.0	39
Measurer 21	0.116	0.0	53
Measurer 22	0.136	4.8	21
Measurer 23	0.109	0.0	31
Measurer 24	0.087	0.0	53
Measurer 26	*	*	4
Measurer 27	0.110	0.0	44
Measurer 28	0.159	3.6	55
Measurer 30	0.127	0.0	27
Measurer 31	0.136	0.0	25
Measurer 32	*	*	2
Measurer 33	0.097	0.0	47
Measurer 34	*	*	1
Measurer 35	0.167	8.7	23
Measurer 36	0.175	0.0	13
Measurer 37	0.250	6.3	16
Measurer 39	0.188	3.6	56
Measurer 40	0.053	0.0	35
Measurer 41	0.085	0.0	19
Measurer 42	0.098	1.8	55
Measurer 43	*	*	1
Total	0.121	2.0	1,055

Note: An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 10 children, which is the minimum number of children needed to calculate the technical error of measurement.

¹ Median absolute difference between measurers' first and second height measurement in centimeters.

Table C.10 Interference in weight measurements of children

Among children under age 5 measured for weight, percentage who were not minimally dressed or who wore heavy permanent ornaments during weight measurements, according to background characteristics (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of children who were not minimally dressed or who wore heavy permanent ornaments during weight measurement	Number of children
Age in months		
<6	1.1	722
6–11	0.7	735
12–23	1.5	1,396
24–35	1.1	1,466
36–47	1.5	1,556
48–59	1.2	1,435
0–23	1.2	2,853
24–59	1.3	4,457
Sex		
Male	1.2	3,656
Female	1.2	3,654
Residence		
Urban	1.0	2,535
Rural	1.4	4,775
Province		
City of Kigali	0.8	753
Southern Province	1.8	1,791
Western Province	0.6	1,748
Northern Province	0.7	1,065
Eastern Province	1.7	1,953
Measurer		
Measurer 1	0.6	362
Measurer 3	0.0	294
Measurer 4	0.0	45
Measurer 5	0.0	164
Measurer 6	0.6	167
Measurer 7	0.7	428
Measurer 8	0.0	6
Measurer 9	0.6	326
Measurer 10	0.0	33
Measurer 11	50.0	2
Measurer 12	2.6	349
Measurer 13	0.5	364
Measurer 14	4.8	21
Measurer 15	0.0	11
Measurer 16	0.0	286
Measurer 17	0.0	1
Measurer 18	2.0	149
Measurer 19	4.0	253
Measurer 20	0.0	1
Measurer 21	0.3	360
Measurer 22	0.0	153
Measurer 23	1.2	163
Measurer 24	0.7	412
Measurer 26	3.8	26
Measurer 27	5.4	294
Measurer 28	1.3	460
Measurer 29	0.0	2
Measurer 30	2.1	146
Measurer 31	2.6	155
Measurer 32	0.0	19
Measurer 33	0.0	383
Measurer 34	0.0	5
Measurer 35	1.0	194
Measurer 36	2.7	73
Measurer 37	0.0	128
Measurer 39	0.0	346
Measurer 40	2.2	227
Measurer 41	0.9	115
Measurer 42	2.6	385
Measurer 43	0.0	1
Total	1.2	7,310

Table C.11 Interference in height and weight measurements of women and men

Among women age 15–49 and men age 15–59 measured for height or weight and interviewed, percentage of women and men for whom hairstyle or ornamentation interfered with height measurement and percentage of women and men who were not wearing lightweight clothing or who wore heavy permanent ornaments during weight measurements, according to background characteristics (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Women			Men		
	Percentage for whom hairstyle or ornamentation interfered with height measurement	Percentage who were not wearing lightweight clothing or who wore heavy permanent ornaments during weight measurements	Number of women	Percentage for whom hairstyle or ornamentation interfered with height measurement	Percentage who were not wearing lightweight clothing or who wore heavy permanent ornaments during weight measurements	Number of men
Age						
15–19	5.1	3.8	1,484	6.2	2.4	1,353
20–29	4.3	2.5	2,244	3.7	2.2	1,749
30–39	3.3	1.6	1,912	3.3	2.1	1,532
40–49	3.5	1.2	1,533	3.5	2.2	1,247
Residence						
Urban	4.1	2.2	2,674	4.9	1.7	2,324
Rural	4.0	2.2	4,499	3.4	2.5	4,224
Province						
City of Kigali	3.3	1.4	880	3.8	1.6	836
Southern Province	5.9	2.8	1,739	5.8	2.4	1,665
Western Province	3.3	1.6	1,599	3.8	2.4	1,339
Northern Province	4.3	1.8	1,112	4.1	1.6	1,042
Eastern Province	3.0	2.9	1,843	2.2	2.6	1,666
Measurer						
Measurer 1	1.7	4.9	346	0.6	2.7	334
Measurer 2	0.0	0.0	1	0.0	0.0	1
Measurer 3	2.1	2.8	281	3.6	1.2	252
Measurer 4	6.7	0.0	60	0.0	3.4	59
Measurer 5	2.9	0.6	175	2.3	3.5	172
Measurer 6	0.6	4.3	162	0.6	0.6	159
Measurer 7	3.0	2.2	367	4.3	1.2	347
Measurer 8	0.0	0.0	3	0.0	33.3	6
Measurer 9	10.1	0.6	328	8.4	2.2	273
Measurer 10	0.0	0.0	49	2.2	0.0	46
Measurer 11	20.0	20.0	5	0.0	40.0	5
Measurer 12	3.3	2.4	334	2.4	2.1	329
Measurer 13	3.6	1.2	335	0.9	0.3	319
Measurer 14	3.7	0.0	27	6.7	0.0	30
Measurer 15	0.0	6.7	15	0.0	0.0	9
Measurer 16	21.2	1.5	335	16.3	1.5	326
Measurer 17	100.0	0.0	1	0.0	0.0	2
Measurer 18	4.1	4.9	122	5.5	8.3	109
Measurer 19	6.0	6.3	252	1.8	5.9	170
Measurer 21	2.2	0.0	312	3.0	0.0	303
Measurer 22	1.7	1.2	173	2.8	1.4	142
Measurer 23	2.1	0.0	188	1.7	1.7	175
Measurer 24	0.5	0.0	378	1.8	0.9	328
Measurer 25	0.0	0.0	2	0.0	0.0	1
Measurer 26	12.5	0.0	8	0.0	9.1	11
Measurer 27	3.4	4.0	321	5.3	4.7	322
Measurer 28	1.8	1.6	440	1.3	1.3	386
Measurer 29	0.0	0.0	2	0.0	0.0	1
Measurer 30	1.1	4.0	177	13.9	4.2	144
Measurer 31	3.0	3.0	165	4.3	2.4	164
Measurer 32	33.3	12.5	24	10.5	10.5	19
Measurer 33	2.4	0.3	337	0.7	0.3	303
Measurer 34	0.0	0.0	7	0.0	0.0	3
Measurer 35	4.4	2.0	205	7.7	2.7	183
Measurer 36	3.8	7.7	78	8.2	6.8	73
Measurer 37	1.7	0.9	117	4.1	2.0	98
Measurer 38	50.0	0.0	2	nc	nc	0
Measurer 39	3.0	0.3	366	1.5	0.9	326
Measurer 40	3.2	2.0	247	4.6	1.4	216
Measurer 41	6.1	0.0	82	1.2	2.4	82
Measurer 42	2.3	6.1	343	4.1	5.3	319
Measurer 43	0.0	0.0	1	nc	nc	0
Total	4.0	2.2	7,173	3.9	2.2	6,548

nc = No cases

Table C.12 Heaping in anthropometric measurements for children (digit preference)

Distribution of weight and height/length measurements by decimal digit recorded (unweighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Digit	Weight		Height or length	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	685	9.3	925	12.6
1	818	11.1	804	10.9
2	728	9.9	855	11.6
3	741	10.1	757	10.3
4	750	10.2	824	11.2
5	724	9.9	760	10.3
6	748	10.2	651	8.9
7	696	9.5	553	7.5
8	733	10.0	610	8.3
9	726	9.9	608	8.3
Total	7,349	100.0	7,347	100.0
Index of dissimilarity¹	na	1.6	na	7.0

Note: The table includes all children with weight and height/length measurements, regardless of the completeness of date of birth information and cases with implausible data. Both weight and length/height measurements are recorded with one decimal digit.

na = Not applicable

¹ The index of dissimilarity is a measure of digit preference, which is calculated as one-half of the sum of absolute differences between the observed and expected percentage. It can be interpreted as the percent of values that would need to be redistributed in order to achieve a uniform distribution.

Table C.13 Observation of handwashing facility

Percent distribution of handwashing facilities in all households by whether or not they were observed by the interviewers, according to background characteristics (weighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Handwashing facility observed		Handwashing facility not observed			Total	Number of households
	Fixed place	Mobile	Not in dwelling, yard, or plot	No permission to see	Other reason		
Residence							
Urban	15.9	24.8	54.2	2.6	2.6	100.0	4,315
Rural	8.6	33.5	51.0	2.7	4.2	100.0	10,112
Province							
City of Kigali	16.5	21.4	57.3	4.1	0.6	100.0	2,178
Southern Province	11.8	28.9	53.5	0.3	5.5	100.0	3,282
Western Province	9.4	33.9	50.5	1.3	5.0	100.0	2,901
Northern Province	8.1	39.3	50.6	0.1	2.0	100.0	2,197
Eastern Province	9.3	31.0	49.4	6.4	4.0	100.0	3,869
Wealth quintile							
Lowest	5.2	34.1	52.2	2.7	5.8	100.0	3,202
Second	7.2	32.1	53.2	2.9	4.6	100.0	2,819
Middle	8.5	33.7	51.8	3.0	3.1	100.0	2,747
Fourth	9.3	30.8	54.4	2.6	3.0	100.0	2,892
Highest	24.6	23.4	47.9	2.2	1.9	100.0	2,767
Total	10.8	30.9	51.9	2.7	3.7	100.0	14,427

Table C.14 School attendance by single year of age

Percent distribution of the de jure population age 4–24 years by educational level and grade attended in the current school year (weighted), Rwanda DHS 2025

Age in years at beginning of school year	Not attend- ing school	Early child- hood educa- tion pro- gram	Primary school grade						Secondary school grade						Post- pri- mary/ Voca- tional	Higher	Don't know	Total	Num- ber of persons age 4–24 years
			1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6					
4	20.1	75.2	4.0	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,457
5	8.0	55.4	32.7	3.1	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,448
6	6.6	13.3	57.9	18.8	2.8	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,517
7	2.7	2.0	31.8	45.6	15.9	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	100.0	1,575
8	3.6	0.7	15.7	35.7	32.2	10.6	1.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,480
9	2.8	0.3	7.3	21.6	30.4	27.7	9.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,516
10	3.1	0.0	3.6	12.8	23.6	32.5	19.7	4.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	1,458
11	4.5	0.0	2.7	7.5	15.5	29.1	26.4	12.7	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	100.0	1,467
12	6.6	0.1	1.3	5.2	10.4	24.1	24.9	18.6	7.3	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,323
13	8.6	0.0	0.3	3.3	7.5	16.6	20.9	19.9	13.8	8.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,282
14	17.4	0.0	0.6	1.6	4.8	10.9	18.0	14.0	14.5	12.6	4.5	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	100.0	1,175
15	27.8	0.0	0.3	0.8	2.5	5.4	11.6	11.8	10.7	12.8	11.6	3.3	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	1,220
16	41.6	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.8	2.2	6.5	7.1	6.6	12.5	12.5	5.9	2.9	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	100.0	1,197
17	53.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	2.3	3.4	3.8	8.1	10.3	7.6	7.0	3.0	0.3	0.0	0.1	100.0	1,125
18	61.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.8	4.6	7.2	5.4	7.5	8.7	0.4	0.5	0.0	100.0	1,180
19	71.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.8	0.9	2.0	4.1	3.5	6.1	8.8	0.1	2.0	0.0	100.0	1,157
20	80.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.2	1.2	2.5	1.7	4.0	5.9	0.0	3.7	0.1	100.0	998
21	84.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.4	0.9	2.7	5.1	0.0	5.6	0.0	100.0	971
22	88.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.3	1.5	4.0	0.0	5.1	0.0	100.0	931
23	91.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.6	0.1	5.6	0.0	100.0	842
24 ^a	92.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.0	6.3	0.0	100.0	383

Note: Age at the beginning of the school year is calculated from dates of birth of household members or by rejuvenating household members based on the date of the survey, the date after start of the school year, and completed age at the time of survey. Levels and grades refer to the current school year, or the most recent school year if data collection was completed between school years.

^a Those age 25 at the time of interview who were age 24 at the beginning of school year are excluded from the table since current attendance was only collected for those age 4–24 years at the time of interview.

Table C.15 Vaccination cards photographed

Percentage of children under age 3 reported to have a vaccination card, percentage whose vaccination card was seen by the interviewer, percentages whose vaccination card was photographed or was not photographed by reason, and among children with a vaccination card seen, percentage of cards photographed, according to background characteristics (weighted) Rwanda DHS 2025

Background characteristic	Percentage of children reported to have a vaccination card	Percentage of children whose vaccination card was seen by interviewer	Percentage of children whose vaccination card was photographed	Percentage of children whose vaccination card was not photographed as permission was not received	Percentage of children whose vaccination card was not photographed for other reasons	Number of children	Among children with a vaccination card seen	
							Percentage of vaccination cards photographed	Number of children
Age in months								
0–11	76.5	73.7	70.8	1.9	1.1	1,453	96.0	1,071
12–23	81.1	79.6	78.3	1.0	0.3	1,404	98.4	1,118
24–35	86.5	85.2	84.1	0.8	0.3	1,377	98.7	1,173
Residence								
Urban	73.4	70.7	69.1	1.3	0.3	1,288	97.7	911
Rural	84.7	83.2	81.4	1.3	0.6	2,945	97.7	2,452
Province								
City of Kigali	68.9	65.4	64.2	0.7	0.5	598	98.1	391
Southern Province	86.6	85.9	83.1	2.0	0.7	916	96.8	787
Western Province	82.9	80.2	78.7	1.3	0.2	918	98.1	737
Northern Province	85.3	83.8	82.3	1.2	0.4	574	98.2	481
Eastern Province	80.2	78.7	77.0	1.0	0.7	1,227	97.9	966
Wealth quintile								
Lowest	82.5	81.4	78.8	1.5	1.1	983	96.8	800
Second	84.8	82.8	80.6	1.7	0.5	852	97.4	706
Middle	84.4	82.6	81.5	0.7	0.4	813	98.7	671
Fourth	77.6	75.8	74.4	1.0	0.3	833	98.2	631
Highest	76.5	73.6	72.1	1.3	0.3	753	97.9	554
Total	81.3	79.4	77.6	1.3	0.5	4,234	97.7	3,362

Note: Vaccination cards include cards, booklets, or other home-based records.

Table C.16 Number of enumeration areas completed by month and region

During the period of fieldwork, number of enumeration areas (EAs) completed by month, according to region, and percent distribution of EAs completed by month, Rwanda DHS 2025

	Month of fieldwork					Number of EAs
	June	July	August	September	October	
Province						
City of Kigali	0	0	2	25	40	67
Southern Province	38	49	45	8	0	140
Western Province	4	7	5	46	61	123
Northern Province	16	28	25	12	9	90
Eastern Province	29	47	44	20	0	140
Total number of EAs	87	131	121	111	110	560
Percent distribution	15.5	23.4	21.6	19.8	19.6	100.0

Note: EAs are classified by month according to the date by which the last Biomarker Questionnaire in the EA was completed.

Table C.17 Sibship size and sex ratio of siblings

Mean sibship size and sex ratio of siblings at birth, Rwanda DHS 2025

Age of respondents	Mean sibship size ¹	Sex ratio of siblings at birth ²
15–19	5.3	101.6
20–24	5.8	99.9
25–29	6.0	101.7
30–34	6.1	100.7
35–39	6.3	105.6
40–44	6.6	101.4
45–49	7.0	105.2
Total	6.0	102.1

¹ Includes the respondent

² Excludes the respondent

Table C.18 Pregnancy-related mortality trends

Direct estimates of pregnancy-related mortality rates for the five years preceding each survey, by five-year age groups, Rwanda

Age	Pregnancy-related mortality rates ^{1,2}					
	2021–2025	2016–2020	2011–2015	2006–2010	2001–2005	1996–2000
15–19	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.2	0.11	0.60
20–24	0.05	0.08	0.27	0.6	1.18	1.59
25–29	0.26	0.12	0.31	0.8	1.43	1.62
30–34	0.42	0.34	0.19	1.2	2.50	3.13
35–39	0.34	0.44	0.71	1.2	1.59	3.39
40–44	0.23	0.78	0.59	0.8	2.40	2.79
45–49	0.14	0.47	0.00	0.5	1.01	1.78
Total 15–49 ^a	0.19	0.27	0.27	0.8	1.29	1.88
Total fertility rate (TFR)	3.7	4.2	4.4	4.9	5.9	6.1
General fertility rate (GFR) ³	109	121	128	149	172	175
Pregnancy-related mortality ratio (PRMR) ⁴	172	226	210	476	750	1071
Confidence interval	(103, 242)	(143, 308)	(134, 287)	(368, 584)	(592, 908)	(875, 1,267)
Lifetime risk of pregnancy-related death ⁵	0.006	0.009	0.009	0.023	0.044	0.064

¹ Pregnancy-related mortality is defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 2 months of termination of pregnancy, from any cause including accidents or violence

² Expressed per 1,000 woman-years of exposure

³ Age-adjusted rate expressed per 1,000 women age 15–49

⁴ Expressed per 100,000 live births; calculated as the age-adjusted pregnancy-related mortality rate times 100 divided by the age-adjusted general fertility rate

⁵ Calculated as $1 - (1 - \text{PRMR})^{\text{TFR}}$ where TFR represents the total fertility rate for the seven years preceding the survey

^a Age-adjusted rate

DISTRICT TABLES

Table D.1 Birth registration of children under age 5

Percentage of de jure children under age 5 whose births are registered with the civil authorities, according to district, Rwanda DHS 2025

District	Percentage of children whose births are registered and who:		Total percentage of children whose births are registered	Number of children
	Had a birth certificate	Did not have birth certificate		
Nyarugenge	50.3	45.6	95.9	182
Gasabo	49.5	48.8	98.3	556
Kicukiro	46.9	46.3	93.2	255
Nyanza	29.3	58.6	87.9	195
Gisagara	49.1	46.6	95.7	276
Nyaruguru	48.3	46.6	94.9	179
Huye	48.4	46.8	95.3	214
Nyamagabe	47.8	46.2	94.0	181
Ruhango	40.7	51.1	91.8	181
Muhanga	23.3	71.4	94.7	154
Kamonyi	21.7	72.2	93.9	258
Karongi	44.4	51.9	96.4	188
Rutsiro	50.5	46.9	97.4	204
Rubavu	41.7	52.5	94.2	356
Nyabihu	58.4	37.2	95.6	166
Ngororero	39.6	53.3	92.9	174
Rusizi	62.9	35.2	98.1	284
Nyamasheke	51.0	45.4	96.4	232
Rulindo	59.6	37.4	97.0	170
Gakenke	52.1	45.5	97.6	181
Musanze	37.5	59.0	96.6	254
Burera	42.7	55.2	97.9	175
Gicumbi	38.1	55.0	93.1	222
Rwamagana	57.3	38.0	95.3	282
Nyagatare	36.1	57.0	93.1	426
Gatsibo	33.3	61.8	95.1	283
Kayanza	59.0	33.5	92.5	304
Kirehe	61.7	35.3	97.0	210
Ngoma	51.1	41.2	92.3	248
Bugesera	38.4	58.4	96.8	335
Total	45.6	49.5	95.1	7,323

Table D.2 Fertility

Total fertility rate for the 3 years preceding the survey, percentage of women aged 15–49 years currently pregnant, and mean number of children ever born to women aged 40–49 years, according to district, Rwanda DHS 2025

District	Total fertility rate	Percentage of women aged 15–49 years currently pregnant	Mean number of children ever born to women aged 40–49 years
Nyarugenge	2.5	6.1	3.4
Gasabo	3.4	3.8	3.8
Kicukiro	2.7	3.5	3.9
Nyanza	3.5	6.1	4.0
Gisagara	4.5	6.3	5.0
Nyaruguru	4.8	5.0	5.2
Huye	4.1	6.9	3.9
Nyamagabe	3.1	6.0	4.5
Ruhango	3.5	5.1	3.9
Muhanga	3.2	3.6	3.6
Kamonyi	3.5	5.0	3.9
Karongi	3.6	5.4	4.5
Rutsiro	3.4	5.6	4.8
Rubavu	3.8	4.5	5.3
Nyabihu	3.7	6.2	5.0
Ngororero	3.8	5.0	4.6
Rusizi	4.5	7.9	5.6
Nyamasheke	3.9	6.1	5.1
Rulindo	3.2	4.4	3.7
Gakenke	3.4	2.4	4.4
Musanze	3.8	4.3	4.5
Burera	3.1	5.7	5.0
Gicumbi	3.5	4.7	4.6
Rwamagana	4.0	4.6	4.3
Nyagatare	4.4	5.4	5.1
Gatsibo	3.8	5.4	4.8
Kayanza	4.0	5.7	5.1
Kirehe	3.7	4.6	5.1
Ngoma	4.2	6.8	5.0
Bugesera	4.0	4.9	4.8
Total	3.7	5.1	4.6

Note: Total fertility rates are for the period 1–36 months prior to interview.

Table D.3 Current use of contraception

Percent distribution of currently married women aged 15–49 years by contraceptive method currently used, according to district, Rwanda DHS 2025

District	Modern method														Traditional method				Not currently using	Total	Number of women
	Any method	Any modern method	Female sterilization	Male sterilization	IUD	Injectables	Implants	Pill	Male condom	Female condom	Emergency contraception	SDM	LAM	Other	Any traditional method	Rhythm	Withdrawal	Other			
Nyarugenge	61.7	57.4	0.5	0.0	7.0	14.6	22.1	10.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	4.2	3.2	1.1	0.0	38.3	100.0	207
Gasabo	68.6	63.1	1.4	0.2	5.8	18.4	28.6	4.6	2.9	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.0	5.4	3.1	2.2	0.2	31.4	100.0	548
Kicukiro	63.3	60.6	4.4	0.0	5.9	14.6	20.6	11.1	1.5	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.4	2.3	0.0	36.7	100.0	275
Nyanza	72.0	63.4	3.6	0.0	1.3	16.5	30.1	9.4	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	8.6	4.4	4.2	0.0	28.0	100.0	178
Gisagara	70.7	59.4	2.2	0.4	1.8	10.5	30.6	7.4	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	2.6	0.0	11.3	3.9	6.5	0.9	29.3	100.0	246
Nyaruguru	68.1	65.6	4.1	0.0	1.6	11.1	43.4	2.3	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.6	1.9	0.0	31.9	100.0	152
Huye	69.4	63.7	3.4	0.0	1.7	13.8	33.5	6.9	2.6	0.0	0.3	1.5	0.0	0.0	5.8	0.6	5.2	0.0	30.6	100.0	185
Nyamagabe	73.7	67.3	1.8	0.0	1.6	12.2	39.8	8.7	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.6	0.0	6.4	4.0	2.4	0.0	26.3	100.0	185
Ruhango	68.8	64.2	1.9	0.0	2.2	10.6	33.7	8.6	4.2	0.0	0.0	2.9	0.0	0.0	4.6	0.0	4.6	0.0	31.2	100.0	185
Muhanga	73.7	69.2	3.4	0.6	4.4	12.2	32.2	10.3	3.5	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	4.5	1.4	3.1	0.0	26.3	100.0	191
Kamonyi	68.1	60.4	2.4	0.0	4.9	13.4	25.5	10.5	2.1	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.3	0.0	7.7	2.1	5.6	0.0	31.9	100.0	272
Karongi	69.2	63.8	4.6	0.0	0.7	10.6	37.9	6.7	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	5.4	0.2	5.2	0.0	30.8	100.0	176
Rutsiro	70.6	63.2	2.4	0.5	0.5	14.5	37.8	3.4	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.9	0.0	7.5	1.8	5.7	0.0	29.4	100.0	214
Rubavu	65.7	60.6	2.2	0.0	1.0	17.5	33.3	5.2	0.9	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0	5.1	2.2	2.9	0.0	34.3	100.0	345
Nyabihu	72.4	67.5	0.0	0.0	1.1	21.3	35.9	5.4	1.1	0.0	0.5	2.1	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.3	4.7	0.0	27.6	100.0	184
Ngororero	73.1	66.8	2.3	0.5	1.0	11.6	42.3	5.2	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.4	0.0	6.2	2.0	4.2	0.0	26.9	100.0	211
Rusizi	55.4	48.0	4.8	1.0	2.6	14.3	17.5	2.9	1.6	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.5	7.3	3.6	3.7	0.0	44.6	100.0	222
Nyamasheke	65.1	59.0	7.5	0.0	0.0	11.5	30.6	2.6	2.8	0.0	0.0	2.3	1.6	0.0	6.1	0.6	5.5	0.0	34.9	100.0	208
Rulindo	73.9	69.9	3.0	0.0	1.8	15.6	38.1	8.3	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.8	3.2	0.0	26.1	100.0	194
Gakenke	80.4	75.2	0.5	0.0	1.3	18.7	45.4	3.2	3.5	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.7	0.0	5.2	3.3	1.9	0.0	19.6	100.0	215
Musanze	70.1	64.1	0.0	0.0	2.3	11.5	41.6	6.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	6.0	3.9	2.1	0.0	29.9	100.0	289
Burera	81.3	78.8	1.8	0.0	1.1	7.4	62.1	4.7	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	2.4	1.1	1.3	0.0	18.7	100.0	223
Gicumbi	76.3	74.3	1.1	0.4	3.1	14.6	42.8	5.5	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.0	2.0	0.6	1.4	0.0	23.7	100.0	252
Rwamagana	66.8	63.0	0.7	0.4	1.9	14.9	35.2	6.2	2.4	0.0	0.3	0.9	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.0	3.8	0.0	33.2	100.0	298
Nyagatare	68.7	64.0	1.1	0.0	0.9	17.7	30.4	9.4	2.4	0.2	0.3	0.0	1.7	0.0	4.7	0.4	3.7	0.6	31.3	100.0	409
Gatsibo	73.2	67.7	1.6	0.0	2.9	17.0	31.1	8.3	3.1	0.0	0.0	1.8	1.9	0.0	5.5	2.3	3.2	0.0	26.8	100.0	297
Kayanza	64.6	59.0	2.8	0.0	2.1	13.3	29.7	6.5	3.4	0.0	0.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	5.7	1.3	4.3	0.0	35.4	100.0	297
Kirehe	67.5	64.4	1.0	0.5	0.2	9.4	48.7	2.5	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.5	2.6	0.0	32.5	100.0	231
Ngoma	74.1	70.7	5.7	0.0	1.8	11.8	41.0	6.8	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.5	0.0	3.5	1.9	1.6	0.0	25.9	100.0	220
Bugesera	63.1	60.8	2.4	0.0	2.2	16.7	30.2	7.5	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	2.2	0.4	1.8	0.0	36.9	100.0	302
Total	69.3	64.2	2.3	0.1	2.4	14.3	34.3	6.6	2.4	0.0	0.1	1.1	0.5	0.0	5.1	1.7	3.3	0.1	30.7	100.0	7,410

Note: If more than one method is used, only the most effective method is considered in this tabulation.

SDM = Standard days method; LAM = Lactational amenorrhea method

Table D.4 Nutritional status of children

Percentage of children under age 5 classified as malnourished according to 3 anthropometric indices of child growth: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, according to district, Rwanda DHS 2025

District	Height-for-age ¹				Weight-for-height					Weight-for-age			
	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD ²	Mean z score (SD)	Number of children	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD ²	Percentage above +2 SD	Mean z score (SD)	Number of children	Percentage below -3 SD	Percentage below -2 SD ²	Mean z score (SD)	Number of children
Nyarugenge	1.9	8.7	-0.6	179	0.0	0.5	2.1	0.3	179	0.5	5.0	-0.1	179
Gasabo	2.6	16.0	-0.8	550	0.3	0.8	5.0	0.4	550	0.3	6.4	-0.2	550
Kicukiro	0.7	14.3	-0.8	246	0.0	1.2	1.8	0.2	246	0.6	3.2	-0.3	246
Nyanza	5.9	23.6	-1.3	194	0.0	1.3	3.1	0.3	194	0.6	7.3	-0.5	194
Gisagara	7.7	33.2	-1.6	271	0.0	0.0	4.4	0.2	271	2.1	9.2	-0.8	271
Nyaruguru	6.5	23.9	-1.4	177	0.0	0.1	2.2	0.3	178	0.6	7.6	-0.6	178
Huye	5.4	27.1	-1.4	208	0.6	1.1	4.8	0.3	208	1.1	4.4	-0.5	208
Nyamagabe	6.3	29.4	-1.5	183	0.0	0.7	2.5	0.4	183	0.6	7.2	-0.6	183
Ruhango	4.8	22.0	-1.3	182	0.6	0.6	4.8	0.3	183	0.6	5.4	-0.5	182
Muhanga	4.1	26.6	-1.3	157	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.3	156	1.0	5.7	-0.5	157
Kamonyi	3.7	21.1	-1.2	250	0.7	1.6	6.8	0.4	250	1.8	6.7	-0.4	251
Karongi	10.9	33.5	-1.6	189	0.2	0.7	3.5	0.5	189	1.6	4.8	-0.6	189
Rutsiro	9.5	33.8	-1.6	199	0.0	2.2	4.4	0.4	199	0.0	8.9	-0.6	199
Rubavu	9.6	33.1	-1.5	355	0.0	0.6	9.2	0.7	353	0.3	5.6	-0.4	355
Nyabihu	7.0	32.7	-1.6	168	0.0	0.0	8.4	0.7	168	1.1	3.2	-0.4	168
Ngororero	6.5	35.8	-1.6	174	0.0	0.0	5.8	0.7	174	0.5	3.4	-0.5	174
Rusizi	10.7	31.0	-1.5	275	0.4	1.2	8.9	0.6	276	0.9	5.2	-0.4	278
Nyamasheke	8.4	29.6	-1.4	233	0.4	1.9	7.0	0.5	233	1.2	6.0	-0.5	233
Rulindo	3.7	27.9	-1.3	169	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.2	168	0.6	6.0	-0.6	169
Gakenke	3.9	26.0	-1.5	186	0.0	0.7	6.2	0.6	186	0.0	3.7	-0.4	186
Musanze	4.5	31.9	-1.5	255	0.0	0.0	7.4	0.8	255	0.0	2.7	-0.3	255
Burera	10.1	37.6	-1.7	174	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.7	174	0.0	4.2	-0.5	174
Gicumbi	5.4	38.8	-1.7	224	0.0	1.1	9.9	0.7	224	1.1	5.1	-0.5	224
Rwamagana	5.7	19.2	-1.1	280	0.0	1.1	5.0	0.3	280	1.6	6.2	-0.4	281
Nyagatare	8.8	27.8	-1.4	411	1.0	1.1	5.5	0.4	410	1.5	7.4	-0.5	411
Gatsibo	9.1	29.4	-1.4	294	0.4	0.8	4.9	0.3	296	0.2	5.8	-0.6	295
Kayonza	7.4	26.1	-1.4	308	0.0	0.8	6.1	0.3	308	0.9	7.3	-0.6	308
Kirehe	6.7	31.7	-1.5	216	0.0	0.2	3.2	0.3	216	0.5	8.8	-0.7	216
Ngoma	8.5	26.9	-1.5	245	0.0	1.1	1.3	0.2	245	1.9	12.4	-0.7	245
Bugesera	4.5	20.8	-1.1	341	0.3	2.2	5.0	0.3	341	0.3	4.7	-0.4	341
Total	6.4	26.8	-1.3	7,293	0.2	0.9	5.1	0.4	7,292	0.8	6.1	-0.5	7,300

Note: Each of the indices is expressed in standard deviation units (SD) from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards.

¹ Recumbent length is measured for children under age 2; standing height is measured for all other children.

² Includes children who are below -3 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Child Growth standards population median

Table D.5 Breastfeeding status according to age

Among youngest children age 0–5 months living with their mother, percentage exclusively breastfeeding and percentage receiving mixed milk feeding; and among all children age 12–23 months, percentage currently breastfeeding; and among all children age 0–23 months, percentage using a bottle with a nipple, according to district, Rwanda DHS 2025

District	Among youngest children age 0–5 months living with their mother:			Among all children age 12–23 months:		Among all children age 0–23 months:	
	Percentage exclusively breast-feeding	Percentage receiving mixed milk feeding ¹	Number of children	Percentage currently breast-feeding ²	Number of children	Percentage using a bottle with a nipple	Number of children
Nyarugenge	*	*	21	(79.7)	28	10.0	73
Gasabo	(86.5)	(7.8)	46	88.6	108	10.7	221
Kicukiro	*	*	20	(86.8)	52	17.7	101
Nyanza	*	*	22	(96.4)	32	6.3	69
Gisagara	*	*	20	98.3	63	3.1	113
Nyaruguru	*	*	17	(99.5)	33	9.4	70
Huye	*	*	18	(90.4)	39	13.4	82
Nyamagabe	*	*	15	(98.8)	24	10.0	55
Ruhango	(84.7)	(6.9)	22	(90.7)	27	5.0	66
Muhanga	(80.8)	(4.9)	23	(89.0)	26	7.7	65
Kamonyi	(66.2)	(6.9)	34	(75.5)	46	17.4	103
Karongi	*	*	12	(92.0)	38	17.9	66
Rutsiro	*	*	14	(93.5)	38	2.7	74
Rubavu	(85.1)	(1.8)	38	90.0	68	3.8	135
Nyabihu	*	*	19	(95.4)	31	2.2	69
Ngororero	(66.3)	(8.7)	26	(81.7)	37	8.1	77
Rusizi	(86.7)	(2.1)	35	(77.5)	42	7.9	104
Nyamasheke	(86.7)	(0.0)	23	(90.4)	36	2.4	84
Rulindo	*	*	14	(91.6)	35	11.2	65
Gakenke	*	*	9	(100.0)	38	8.6	65
Musanze	*	*	19	96.8	57	0.9	107
Burera	*	*	18	(93.0)	35	0.0	64
Gicumbi	*	*	12	(89.8)	46	9.8	85
Rwamagana	*	*	25	(89.3)	51	9.6	115
Nyagatare	(68.8)	(14.0)	38	88.9	93	14.4	180
Gatsibo	(81.5)	(0.0)	40	90.9	55	12.0	117
Kayanza	(90.1)	(6.9)	36	89.2	61	7.7	112
Kirehe	(67.3)	(5.8)	25	(89.2)	47	5.6	90
Ngoma	*	*	17	87.0	56	18.9	102
Bugesera	(86.9)	(4.0)	32	82.5	62	8.9	129
Total	81.8	4.7	709	89.8	1,404	9.1	2,857

Note: Breastfeeding status refers to a “24-hour” period (yesterday during the day or at night). Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases. An asterisk indicates that a figure is based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases and has been suppressed.

¹ Received breast milk and infant formula and/or animal milk. Excludes yogurt drinks because they are generally not fed as a substitute for breast milk. Excludes soy and nut milks.

² Corresponds to IYCF indicator ‘Continued breastfeeding’

Table D.6 Micronutrient supplementation and deworming among children

Among children age 6–59 months, percentages who were given iron tablets or syrups, micronutrient powders, and iron-containing supplements in the last 12 months, and percentage who were given vitamin A supplements in the last 6 months; and among children age 12–59 months, percentage who were given deworming medication in the last 6 months, according to district, Rwanda DHS 2025

District	Among children age 6–59 months:				Number of children	Among children age 12–59 months:	
	Percentage given iron tablets or syrups in last 12 months ¹	Percentage given multiple micronutrient powders in last 12 months ¹	Percentage given iron-containing supplements in last 12 months ^{1,2}	Percentage given vitamin A supplements in last 6 months ³		Percentage given deworming medication in last 6 months ^{1,4}	Number of children
Nyarugenge	29.8	24.2	37.1	63.5	162	74.3	139
Gasabo	15.9	21.5	26.8	69.2	525	77.3	459
Kicukiro	53.9	27.3	60.0	77.1	238	80.2	209
Nyanza	74.3	46.9	80.5	84.7	158	86.0	144
Gisagara	5.7	38.8	41.4	87.0	240	84.4	210
Nyaruguru	46.4	60.0	71.4	67.8	143	83.3	125
Huye	7.7	26.3	28.6	70.8	181	77.7	155
Nyamagabe	60.5	37.7	75.3	77.6	146	95.9	130
Ruhango	36.2	37.0	49.2	82.0	151	86.8	135
Muhanga	60.6	42.7	70.0	77.8	119	84.9	104
Kamonyi	31.3	15.4	34.3	64.6	208	71.3	185
Karongi	23.6	32.5	34.9	77.4	163	86.8	147
Rutsiro	1.8	46.1	46.1	82.6	180	87.1	157
Rubavu	46.7	17.7	51.3	65.4	314	81.2	285
Nyabihu	27.8	32.6	45.8	79.6	144	78.6	126
Ngororero	24.7	27.7	36.0	80.7	140	83.3	128
Rusizi	31.3	34.8	44.6	81.9	233	89.8	207
Nyamasheke	5.9	19.2	21.0	81.5	196	83.9	171
Rulindo	21.7	16.8	30.9	79.8	150	80.8	133
Gakenke	37.5	53.5	67.8	75.7	172	83.6	153
Musanze	27.0	26.0	29.1	65.0	232	79.6	201
Burera	19.3	21.5	28.2	77.7	148	89.1	138
Gicumbi	43.9	37.0	48.5	72.6	205	83.5	179
Rwamagana	45.4	28.3	57.5	83.8	247	89.6	208
Nyagatare	14.8	23.4	26.4	63.2	364	69.4	317
Gatsibo	23.3	28.8	37.5	84.8	229	72.3	206
Kayanza	17.7	33.8	37.7	67.6	250	70.2	235
Kirehe	55.8	39.1	62.8	79.4	189	69.8	171
Ngoma	17.9	29.2	38.3	69.9	219	71.0	189
Bugesera	37.3	34.5	39.4	70.9	294	77.0	259
Total	29.9	30.6	43.1	74.4	6,338	80.0	5,603

¹ Based on mother's recall.

² Iron-containing supplements includes tablets, syrup, or micronutrient powders.

³ Based on both mother's recall and the vaccination card (where available).

⁴ Deworming for intestinal parasites is commonly done for helminths and schistosomiasis.

⁵ Information available for children age 0–35 months only

Table D.7.1 Nutritional status of women aged 20–49 years

Among women aged 20–49 years, percentage with height below 145 cm, mean body mass index (BMI), and percentage with specific BMI levels, according to district, Rwanda DHS 2025

District	Short stature		Body Mass Index ¹								Number of women
	Height below 145 cm	Number of women	Mean body mass index (BMI)	18.5–24.9 (total normal)	<18.5 (total thin)	17.0–18.4 (mildly thin)	<17 (moderately or severely thin)	≥25.0 (total overweight or obese)	25.0–29.9 (overweight)	≥30.0 (obese)	
Nyarugenge	2.1	201	26.3	38.7	5.1	5.1	0.0	56.2	33.8	22.4	181
Gasabo	1.3	469	26.1	47.2	2.1	2.1	0.0	50.7	28.2	22.5	439
Kicukiro	2.0	253	25.5	48.3	3.6	1.4	2.2	48.0	29.0	19.1	239
Nyanza	4.0	144	23.5	67.5	5.9	5.1	0.8	26.6	19.5	7.0	134
Gisagara	1.9	172	22.2	70.9	11.6	8.1	3.4	17.5	15.5	2.0	161
Nyaruguru	4.7	116	22.5	78.6	6.2	5.4	0.8	15.2	13.8	1.4	103
Huye	3.7	140	23.4	62.6	10.5	7.9	2.6	26.9	20.9	6.0	130
Nyamagabe	1.8	144	23.4	70.0	3.1	2.3	0.8	26.9	21.6	5.3	133
Ruhango	2.9	149	22.4	70.1	11.1	6.7	4.4	18.9	15.9	3.0	141
Muhanga	0.4	147	23.7	68.3	4.4	3.6	0.8	27.3	19.8	7.5	139
Kamonyi	3.4	216	24.6	55.1	5.5	4.4	1.1	39.4	26.2	13.2	203
Karongi	1.5	132	22.8	72.2	4.4	3.4	0.9	23.4	22.5	0.9	123
Rutsiro	5.3	151	23.3	75.4	2.2	0.8	1.5	22.4	19.0	3.3	136
Rubavu	1.6	271	25.5	49.2	3.5	2.5	1.0	47.4	31.5	15.9	249
Nyabihu	2.8	140	24.7	55.4	0.8	0.8	0.0	43.9	35.0	8.9	125
Ngororero	2.3	148	23.7	72.3	0.9	0.9	0.0	26.8	22.7	4.1	137
Rusizi	2.7	174	24.4	59.6	3.1	3.1	0.0	37.3	25.5	11.8	150
Nyamasheke	1.4	165	23.7	64.9	5.3	5.3	0.0	29.8	26.1	3.7	155
Rulindo	1.8	151	23.4	69.7	2.2	1.5	0.7	28.1	20.8	7.3	141
Gakenke	3.9	168	23.4	75.1	2.3	2.3	0.0	22.6	17.8	4.8	162
Musanze	0.0	204	25.0	60.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	38.9	27.3	11.6	193
Burera	1.3	148	24.1	63.1	3.4	3.4	0.0	33.5	27.6	5.9	132
Gicumbi	0.0	165	23.4	71.6	3.8	3.8	0.0	24.6	17.9	6.6	150
Rwamagana	3.1	215	24.5	58.7	4.7	3.3	1.5	36.6	25.8	10.8	203
Nyagatare	1.6	297	25.3	55.4	2.7	1.6	1.0	41.9	23.5	18.4	271
Gatsibo	3.7	209	23.9	67.8	2.1	2.1	0.0	30.1	18.9	11.2	197
Kayanza	2.7	214	24.3	59.0	5.0	3.1	2.0	35.9	25.0	11.0	198
Kirehe	1.4	161	23.8	69.3	2.7	2.5	0.2	28.0	20.0	8.0	148
Ngoma	4.3	161	23.4	66.1	4.9	4.9	0.0	29.0	21.9	7.1	144
Bugesera	1.4	233	24.8	58.5	1.6	1.6	0.0	39.9	28.1	11.7	221
Total 20–49	2.2	5,659	24.3	61.2	4.0	3.1	0.8	34.9	24.1	10.7	5,237

Note: Body mass index (BMI) is expressed as the ratio of weight in kilograms to the square of height in meters (kg/m²) for adults aged 20–49 years.

¹ Excludes pregnant women and women with a birth in the preceding 2 months

Table D.7.2 Nutritional status of adolescent women aged 15–19 years

Among women aged 15–19 years, percentage with height-for-age below -2 standard deviations (SD), mean body mass index (BMI) for age z score, and percentage with specific BMI-for-age levels, according to district, Rwanda DHS 2025

District	Short stature		Body mass index-for-age ¹								Number of women
	Height-for-age below -2 SD	Number of women	Mean BMI-for-age z score	-1 SD to +1 SD (total normal)	< -1 SD (total thin) ²	< -1 SD to -2 SD (mildly thin)	< -2 SD (moderately or severely thin)	> +1 SD (total overweight or obese) ³	> +1 SD to +2 SD (over-weight)	> +2 SD (obese)	
Nyarugenge	(7.5)	32	0.4	(83.8)	(3.5)	(3.5)	(0.0)	(12.7)	(8.8)	(3.9)	28
Gasabo	11.7	113	0.4	66.7	7.3	5.6	1.7	26.0	23.6	2.5	112
Kicukiro	5.5	61	0.5	76.3	2.5	2.5	0.0	21.2	14.5	6.8	61
Nyanza	(13.8)	37	0.1	(78.2)	(5.6)	(5.6)	(0.0)	(16.2)	(12.8)	(3.4)	36
Gisagara	14.0	55	0.2	81.1	10.3	10.3	0.0	8.6	8.3	0.3	52
Nyaruguru	(7.0)	41	0.2	(71.3)	(8.8)	(8.8)	(0.0)	(19.9)	(19.9)	(0.0)	41
Huye	(3.2)	43	0.2	(72.0)	(8.6)	(8.6)	(0.0)	(19.4)	(17.3)	(2.1)	41
Nyamagabe	(10.1)	33	-0.0	(62.8)	(20.9)	(17.5)	(3.4)	(16.3)	(10.8)	(5.5)	31
Ruhango	(11.1)	38	-0.0	(85.1)	(5.3)	(5.3)	(0.0)	(9.7)	(9.7)	(0.0)	37
Muhanga	(4.7)	35	0.4	(86.6)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(13.4)	(13.4)	(0.0)	34
Kamonyi	(9.8)	49	0.3	(65.8)	(9.7)	(9.7)	(0.0)	(24.5)	(20.6)	(3.9)	49
Karongi	(21.3)	30	0.3	(79.1)	(6.7)	(6.7)	(0.0)	(14.3)	(10.2)	(4.0)	30
Rutsiro	(21.0)	34	-0.0	(84.4)	(6.0)	(6.0)	(0.0)	(9.6)	(9.6)	(0.0)	34
Rubavu	(6.9)	51	0.6	(59.8)	(4.1)	(4.1)	(0.0)	(36.1)	(33.9)	(2.2)	48
Nyabihu	(16.3)	29	0.3	(62.6)	(14.3)	(14.3)	(0.0)	(23.1)	(23.1)	(0.0)	27
Ngororero	(10.1)	41	0.3	(84.1)	(2.5)	(2.5)	(0.0)	(13.5)	(13.5)	(0.0)	40
Rusizi	(19.6)	39	0.1	(86.1)	(4.5)	(4.5)	(0.0)	(9.4)	(9.4)	(0.0)	39
Nyamasheke	15.4	52	0.2	74.4	10.5	8.4	2.1	15.1	14.4	0.6	52
Rulindo	(11.9)	30	0.3	(83.0)	(1.5)	(1.5)	(0.0)	(15.5)	(14.1)	(1.5)	30
Gakenke	(13.9)	43	0.6	(71.2)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(0.0)	(28.8)	(26.2)	(2.6)	43
Musanze	8.3	58	0.7	56.2	3.5	3.5	0.0	40.3	33.3	7.0	58
Burera	(11.1)	31	0.5	(68.0)	(3.3)	(0.0)	(3.3)	(28.7)	(25.5)	(3.2)	31
Gicumbi	(11.0)	42	0.3	(68.3)	(5.2)	(5.2)	(0.0)	(26.5)	(26.5)	(0.0)	41
Rwamagana	2.3	74	0.4	62.3	9.7	9.7	0.0	28.0	26.3	1.6	73
Nyagatare	13.9	97	0.4	62.3	9.5	9.5	0.0	28.2	24.0	4.1	94
Gatsibo	4.1	62	0.2	68.1	14.6	14.6	0.0	17.3	14.9	2.3	55
Kayanza	12.7	59	0.2	76.4	9.2	7.1	2.1	14.4	11.3	3.1	54
Kirehe	17.8	60	0.4	77.4	3.8	3.8	0.0	18.8	16.6	2.2	60
Ngoma	12.2	46	0.2	67.7	7.3	7.3	0.0	25.0	23.3	1.7	45
Bugesera	7.4	63	0.3	75.1	5.6	5.6	0.0	19.3	17.5	1.8	62
Total 15–19	10.8	1,477	0.3	71.9	7.0	6.5	0.4	21.1	18.7	2.4	1,439

Note: Height-for-age and body mass index (BMI)-for-age are expressed in standard deviation units (SD) from the median of the WHO Growth Reference for adolescent women age 15–19. Figures in parentheses are based on 25–49 unweighted cases.

¹ Excludes pregnant women and women with a birth in the preceding 2 months

² Includes adolescent women age 15–19 who are below -2 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Growth Reference population median

³ Includes adolescent women age 15–19 who are above +2 standard deviations (SD) from the WHO Growth Reference population median

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BUTERA Jean de Dieu
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MUGABO Jules
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MUZIRANENGE Alice
MWENIMANA Joseph
NDUWAYO Clemence
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 HABUMUREMYI Serge
 HAKORIMANA Eric
 ISHIMWE Clement
 KABANDAHO Egide
 KABATSI Dative
 MANZI Camille
 MUKAGATERA Josée
 MUKAMWIZA Illuminée

MUKANDEKEZI Dorothée
 MUKASEKURU Françoise
 MUKESHIMANA Quessie
 NIYIGENA Solange
 NKURIYEKUBONA Assinapol
 NYIRANSENGIYUMVA Judith
 NZABAKINGA P. Clever
 UMUHOZA Alice
 UWABYAYE Odette
 UWAMAHORO Vestine

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 BUCYANAYANDI Collette
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 DUSABEYEU Domina
 GAHONGAYIRE Sarah
 GAHUNGA Nadia
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 MUKANDAYISENGA Josiane
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 MUKANTIYAMIRA Aliane
 MUKARUGINA Petronille
 MUKESHIMANA Laurence
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 MUKUNDUHIRWE Genevieve
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 MUSHIMIYIMANA Evelyne
 MUTESI Ronnah
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 NYIRANEZA Alexia
 NYIRANSHIMIYIMANA Falida
 NYIRANSHUTI Eugenie
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 RUSINE Valentine
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 UMUTESI Marie Chantal
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 UWAMAHORO Laetitia
 UWAMAHORO Vestine
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